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The dollar volune of sales in Canadian retail stores was 26 per cent higher in March, 1946 than in the preceding month of February and was greater by 8 per cent thar in March of last year. Unseasonably warm weather in March this year, as in last, was an important factor advancing and increasing the oustomary upward swing in trading in the spring months. It is rather significant, however, that the expension in retail sales should have reached 8 per cent in March this year compared with last, in view of the additional impetus which was given to March, 1945 sales volume by the concentration of Easter purchasing in that month. Easter occurred in the latter part of April this year and it is doubtful if its influence on March business was appreciable. Unadjusted indexes of sales (on the base, 1935-1939=100) stood at 210.3 for March, 1946, 194.3 for March, 1945 and 167.0 for February, 1946.

The increase between March of 1945 and 1946 is admittedly less pronounced than the gains of 12 per cent in January and 14 per cent in February. But when the best available adjustment is made to account for the variable date of Easter, the increase in March of this year over last (as indicated by the adjusted indexes of sales) amounted to 13.6 per cent. This increase slightly exceeds the average gain recorded in the first two months of this year.

Sales in the first quarter of this year averaged 11 per cent higher than in the similar period of 1945 . The significance of this comparison is somewhat reduced owing to the varying influence of Easter trading on results for the last two years. A better indication of the difference between the trading levels of the two years will be given when April results are known and the extent of Easter trading this year will have been taken into account.

Those trades which specialize in merchandising durable household equipment continue to feature the results for individual kinds of business. Radio and electrical stores led all other trades with a 70 per cent increase in March of this year over March, 1945. This outstanding gain is a reflection, not only of the increased output of radios and electrical appliances, but also of the relatively low volume of business to which these stores were confined in March a year ago when many of the commodities normally handled were not available. Furniture stores, which increased their sales by 43 per cent in March, 1946 compared with March a year ago, are also deriving a certain proportion of their increased volume from the retailing of radios and electrical goods which forms a limited portion of their business. Part of the increase for this trade no doubt represents expenditures by returning service personnel making use of the rehabilitation grants provided for re-establishing homes. Numerous factors are affecting the sales of hardvare stores which show an increase amounting to 30 per cent in March. Among these are the greater variety of merchandise avallable, particularly those products requiring metals in their manufacture, the re-introduction of radio departments and the current activity in construction.

Eight other trades recorded sales increases in March and these ranged from 6 to 11 per cent. Three trudes which are most sensitive to the Easter influence experienced sales declines below Narch a year ago. Variety and shoe store sales foll


Among those Crates wath sompense the general meronandise group, dopartment store increases contimue to feature the results, althouph the 11 per cent gain for Warch is more moderate than increases which were recorded in the first two months of the year. Variety store sales have shown little reaction to the conditions which have enabled most trades to expand their sales volume since the end of the war. This may be explainod in part by the fart that this type of store does not carry heavy household merchandise or sizable quartities of men's wear, commodities in wich most of the expansion has taken ilace.

Food stores have shown fairly moderate increases in sales volume during the past fow months. The 6 per cent gain in March is slightly below the average gain recorded in the quarterly comparison for 1945 and 1946 , Restaurant sales, up 6 per cent in March, 1946 compared with March a year aro, maintained the same marrin of increase as in the first two months of the year.

Of all kinds of business included in this monthly survey, those in the clothing group are naturally the most sensitive to the Easter trade. It is particularly remarkable that women's apparel stores were able to attain almost the same volume of business in March this year as last. a decline of only 3 per cent being recorded. Men's wear stores reported a 7 por aent increase in sales over March, 1945. Althouph Easter customarily exerts an important influence upon sales of men's clothing stores, its sipmificance is considerably overshadowed this year because of the much larger civilian male population than a year ago and the necessity for buying when goods are available rather than according to seasonal customs. Nevertheless, the increase of 7 per cent for March represents a substantial reduction fron the increase of 17 per cent in the first quarter of the year. Family clothing stores experienced an increase of 6 per cent in sales during March.

Drug store sales were up 6 per cent and jewellery merchants had a 9 per cent increase in sales valume over March, 1945.

Figures reported by a number of chain candy firms showed salos volume 1 per cent higher in March this year than in March a year ago, with sales averaging 12 per cent higher in the first quarter of this year over last. Furriers sold merchandise valued 37 per cent above Narch, 1045 sales.

## Regional Trends

March increases were slightly lower in all provinces than those which appear in the quarterly comparisons of sales for this year and last. The Narch gains were highest in the western provinces and became progressively smaller from west to east. The Prairie Provinces reported an increase of 11 per cent in March, closely followed by a 10 per cent increase in British Columbia. Ontario and Quebec reported fains of 8 per cent, while in the Maritime provinces sales were up by 3 , jer cent. Increnses in the quarterly comparisons ranged from 13 per cent in British Columbia to 6 per cent in the Maritimes.

## Departmental Analysis of Department Store Sales

Seventeen firms reported sales on a departmontal basis and their total volume was 11 per cent higher in March this year compared with last. Durable goods de-
partmonts continued the wide expansion which has characterized results for recent months. Increases in March for these departments, led by radio and electrical with a 143 per cent increase and household appliances with a 97 per cent advance, were somewhat similar to those which had been recorded in the February comparisons. Notwithstanding the fact that Easter occurred in March of 1945 and well on in April this year, apparel departments were able to show slight increases over the substantial volume of sales which they had obtained in March a year ago. Drugs, piece goods and smallwares departments had small sales gains over March, 1945, while food departments did 2 per cent less businoss than in that month.

Comparison of Retail Sules in Canada. for 1945 und 1945 , by Kinds of Business (Comparisons are based on dollar sales. No corrections have been made for higher prices.)

(a) Rased on sales including the Federal tax introduced in June, 1942.

A summary of department store sales by departments for the first quarters of 1945 and 1946 appears on Page 11 of this bulletin.

Index Numbers of Retuil Sales - (Average for $1935-1939=100$ )
A. Unadjusted. B. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations. (Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

| Year and Month | General Index |  | Country General |  | Department |  | Variety |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| March, 1939 | 92.3 | 98.1 | 82.8 | 97.1 | 86.0 | 91.7 | 80.2 | 102.7 |
| March, 1941 | 117.3 | 126.5 | 95.0 | 111.8 | 111.6 | 125.0 | 121.0 | 150.9 |
| March, 1943 | 149.0 | 163.9 | 123.7 | 145.4 | 145.4 | 164.3 | 153.5 | 198.8 |
| March, 1944 | 162.9 | 174.2 | 139.9 | 163.5 | 163.2 | 174.0 | 156.3 | 200.9 |
| March, 1945 | 194.3 | 201.8 | 158.2 | 179.7 | 200.5 | 215.5 | 208.6 | 234.4 |
| 1945 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April | 174.6 | 179.7 | 160.1 | 178.2 | 164.8 | 171.7 | 179.5 | 212.9 |
| May | 182.0 | 175.9 | 182.1 | 168.5 | 162.8 | 157.3 | 192.0 | 194.9 |
| June | 196.8 | 184.4 | 183.5 | 172.6 | 169.1 | 160.6 | 212.3 | 193.9 |
| July | 170.6 | 189.2 | 182.0 | 176.1 | 133.2 | 179.0 | 196.7 | 203.7 |
| August | 178.1 | 189.8 | 187.6 | 171.8 | 155.7 | 184.7 | 191.9 | 203.7 |
| September | 187.2 | 186.0 | 176.5 | 165.2 | 201.6 | 205.3 | 194.2 | 200.9 |
| October | 203.8 | 189.8 | 192.3 | 172.1 | 220.9 | 189.3 | 218.2 | 213.0 |
| November | 213.1 | 200.8 | 181.6 | 174.2 | 258.4 | 222.5 | 249.9 | 246.3 |
| December | 256.1 | 187.4 | 209.7 | 174.3 | 279.6 | 174.4 | 400.0 | 197.8 |
| 1946 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jenuary | 160.2 | 196.3 | 138.1 | 180.0 | 137.0 | 182.4 | 144.0 | 227.5 |
| February ...... | 167.0 | 212.6 | 139.8 | 187.9 | 162.2 | 215.6 | 157.2 | 232.8 |
| March $\ldots$....... | 210.3 | 22.9 .3 | 167.7 | 196.0 | 222.3 | 258.2 | 199.3 | 246.7 |


| Year and Month | Food |  | Restaurants |  | Fumily Clothing |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Men's (a) } \\ & \text { Clothing } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| March, 1939 ...... | 109.6 | 104.9 | 94.9 | 95.7 | (b) | (b) | 70.2 | 85.5 |
| Narch, 1941 ...... | 134.7 | 126.9 | 114.1 | 115.9 | 102.6 | 122.9 | 105.0 | 130.6 |
| March, 1943 | 166.1 | 163.3 | 171.2 | 172.7 | 135.0 | 169.3 | 137.0 | 170.6 |
| Wiarch, 1944 | 182.0 | 174.8 | 187.5 | 188.0 | 142.6 | 169.8 | 145.7 | 170.6 |
| March, 1945 | 201.1 | 188.1 | 195.9 | 196.4 | 218.8 | 230.4 | 206.0 | 217.7 |
| 1945 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April | 181.7 | 185.4 | 192.4 | 195.8 | 184.9 | 173.1 | 165.8 | 159.9 |
| May | 192.1 | 189.6 | 191.9 | 187.2 | 189.0 | 183.8 | 168.3 | 174.3 |
| June | 210.8 | 197.0 | 199.1 | 198.6 | 216.3 | 198.7 | 212.1 | 189.3 |
| july | 178.2 | 188.5 | 208.7 | 201.5 | 179.2 | 215.4 | 152.8 | 193.0 |
| August | 188.4 | 198.7 | 212.5 | 194.9 | 169.8 | 207.2 | 140.8 | 189.8 |
| September | 174.3 | 173.7 | 204.6 | 199.6 | 199.5 | 212.0 | 209.4 | 212.7 |
| October | 182.1 | 185.0 | 206.6 | 202.2 | 266.5 | 224.6 | 253.0 | 215.9 |
| November | 185.8 | 185.5 | 204.4 | 214.5 | 260.9 | 218.6 | 256.6 | 207.6 |
| Decomber | 215.6 | 189.8 | 201.7 | 196.0 | 310.8 | 193.8 | 308.7 | 178.8 |
| 1946 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January ....... | 182.8 | 192.7 | 190.4 | 199.7 | 145.9 | 216.5 | 140.0 | 197.4 |
| February ...... | 182. 2 | 198.4 | 181.8 | 205.8 | 154.7 | 239.1 | 159.1 | 253.1 |
| March . . ....... | 213.3 | 197.4 | 208.5 | 212.4 | 231.7 | 281.0 | 220.6 | 261.7 |

(a) Includes men's furnishings.
(b) Not available。

Index Numbers of Retail Sales - (Average for 1935-1939=100) A. Unad justed. B. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations. (Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

| Year and Month | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Women's } \\ & \text { Clothing } \end{aligned}$ | Shoes |  | Drugs |  | Furniture |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | B | A | B | A | B | A | 3 |
| arch, $1939 \ldots 00083.7$ | 95.8 | 69.0 | 91.9 | 105.2 | 106.1 | 82.0 | 94.5 |
| Narch, 1941 ...... 114.7 | 135.7 | 96.2 | 127.8 | 123.7 | 125.6 | 119.8 | 139.6 |
| March, 1943 ...... 155.6 | 189.2 | 135.3 | 192.9 | 159.6 | 162.6 | 111.8 | 130.3 |
| March, $1944 \ldots . . .174 .7$ | 204.0 | 135.6 | -180.5 | 170.1 | 172.2 | 118.2 | 137.7 |
| Narch, 1945 ...... 258.2 | 259.5 | 226,0 | 243,2 | 188.5 | 186.6 | 143.2 | 165.4 |
| 1945 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April ......... 199.5 | 175.2 | 179.6 | 161.6 | 175.2 | 184.4 | 159.3 | 147.1 |
| May ........... 198.9 | 190.8 | 191.1 | 173.6 | 178.6 | 183.8 | 166.9 | 134.8 |
| June .......... 21?.9 | 196.3 | 261.1 | 150.4 | 184.7 | 190.8 | 164.3 | 159.7 |
| July .......... 165,8 | 203.5 | 189.8 | 215.3 | 178.5 | 186.2 | 135.0 | 179.8 |
| August ........ 166,6 | 212.4 | 177.6 | 203.? | 180.8 | 181.1 | 137.9 | 134.7 |
| September ..... 212.1 | 223.8 | 204.9 | 184.5 | 184.0 | 182,5 | 148.4 | 129.0 |
| October ....... 246.7 | 210.6 | 19?.7 | 197.0 | 196.4 | 190.3 | 169.7 | 144,0 |
| November ...... 24.3.3 | 217.4 | 208.9 | 214.7 7 | 195.5 | 197.7 | 164.5 | 153.7 |
| Decomber ...... 304,5 | 197.2 | 257.5 | 178.6 | 286. 2 | 225.9 | 166.1 | 140.5 |
| 1946 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January ....... 14s.? | 208.6 | 111.0 | 158.5 | 194.7 | 206.8 | 145.5 | 221.5 |
| February ...... 155.2 | 246.9 | 115.6 | 195.5 | 185.2 | 205.5 | 155.4 | 199,2 |
| Narch $\because=\cdots \quad 250.5$ | 299.1 | 214.9 | 284~? | 200.0 | 201.1 | 204,0 | 234.1 |


| Yelar and Month | Hardware |  | Jew | $\begin{aligned} & (a) \\ & \mathrm{ry} \end{aligned}$ | Radio and <br> Electrical |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A | B |  | $\bar{B}$ |  |  |
| March, 1939 .....0 | 2 | 97.1 | $60 . \overline{9}$ | (b) | 82.1 | 95.7 |
| March, 1941 ...... | 96.3 | 134.9 | 108.5 | 141.8 | 119.1 | 139.1 |
| March, 1943 | 117.7 | 161.3 | 144.5 | 182.1 | 111.2 | 125.0 |
| March, 1944 ...... | 130.3 | 179.1 | 164.1 | 206.6 | 103,4 | 116.3 |
| March, 1945 ..... | 168.4 | 231.5 | 204.9 | 268.0 | 110.5 | 129.0 |
| 194.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April | 190.6 | 186.2 | 187.6 | 227.8 | 110.5 | 112.7 |
| May | 204.9 | 155.2 | 197.1 | 219.7 | 115.4 | 99.3 |
| June | 218.4 | 177.3 | 230.5 | 243.2 | 110.0 | 121.1 |
| July .......... | 209.2 | 194.8 | 219.1 | 269.2 | 108.1 | 129.7 |
| August........ | 202.9 | 189.5 | 233.4 | 242.2 | 112.5 | 123.6 |
| September .... | 212.3 | 184.9 | 215.4 | 248.7 | 124.6 | 116.2 |
| October | 226.8 | 197.3 | 231.0 | 249.0 | 142.9 | 119.8 |
| November | 218.7 | 215.3 | 293. 5 | 287.9 | 151.7 | 132.8 |
| December | 232.6 | 211.7 | 677.6 | 266.9 | 197.2 | 154.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 159.0 | 264.0 | 168.6 | 236.2 | 147.5 | 176.4 |
| February ...... | 161.4 | 295.6 | 198.1 | 284.4 | 153.2 | 198.5 |
| March | 218.9 | 302.0 | 224. | 293.1 | 188.0 | 219.5 |

[^0]Unadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Provinces - (Average for $1935-1939=100$ ) (Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

| Year and Month | General Index | Country <br> General | Department | Variety | Food | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Restau- } \\ & \text { rant } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Family } \\ & \text { Clothing } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Maritime Provinces |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March. 1943 ........ | 172.8 | 136.2 | 170.3 | 192.5 | 178.9 | 228.5 | 153.5 |
| March, 1944 ......... | 196.1 | 156.1 | 216.2 | 200.0 | 200.4 | 240.2 | 175.1 |
| March, 1945 | 228.0 | 175.8 | 247.4 | 256.9 | 224.3 | 247.4 | 254.3 |
| 1946 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February ........ | 189.7 | 170.4 | 178.1 | 172.2 | 200.6 | 215.3 | 187.4 |
| March | 235.0 | 189.7 | 262.0 | 227.8 | 226.5 | 246.7 | 264.4 |
| \% Change, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March, 1946 March, 1945 .... | +3.1 | + 7.9 | + 5.9 | -11.3 | $+1.0$ | -0.3 | + 4.0 |
| March, 1945 .... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \% Change, |  |  |  |  |  |  | +8.4 |
| Jano-Mar., 1945 . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Quebec |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| March, 1943 ........ | 155.7 | 138.4 | 147.4 | 172.8 | 178.5 | 162.6 | 144.0 |
| March, 1944 ......... | 169.4 | 1.55.0 | 167.7 | 177.0 | 192.5 | 175.2 | 161.3 |
| March, 1945 ........ | 202.0 | 167.9 | 216.6 | 242.3 | 209.9 | 188.5 | 243.7 |
| 1946 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February ........ | 165.7 | 135.7 | 168.5 | 175.7 | 186.4 | 182.3 | 154.6 |
| March ........... | 217.8 | 179.3 | 253.7 | 233.4 | 218.0 | 208.4 | 270.8 |
| \% Change. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March, 1946 .... | $+7.8$ | $+6.8$ | +17.1 | -3.7 | + 3.9 | +10.6 | +11.1 |
| March, 1945 .... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \% Change, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan.-Mar., 1946. | +10.1 | $+8.2$ | +17.1 | $+1.3$ | + 5.9 | +10.7 | +14.4 |



Jnadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Provinces - (Average for 1935 - 1939 = 100) (Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

| Men's(a) Women's Furniture Hardware Jewellery Electrical <br> Clothing <br> Clothing | Shoes (b) Radio and |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 194.8 | 193.9 | 166.5 | 189.7 | 144.7 | 125.8 | 251.3 | 116.7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 209.8 | 214.8 | 176.8 | 205.2 | 161.1 | 150.3 | 305.1 | 106.3 |
| 266.1 | 320.0 | 247.5 | 227.3 | 187.1 | 162.2 | 339.1 | 124.0 |
| 217.9 | 191.1 | 125.3 | 209.9 | 191.5 | 145.0 | 285.7 | 181.0 |
| 297.8 | 291.7 | 241.4 | 229.4 | 267.2 | 197.5 | 313.2 | 193.9 |
| +11.9 | - 8.8 | -2.5 | $+0.9$ | +42.8 | +21.8 | - 7.6 | +56.4 |
| +13.8 | - 3.1 | - 2.5 | $+5.0$ | +40.7 | +19.1 | - 5.2 | +47.1 |


| Quebec |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 126.4 | 143.3 | 116.4 | 164.1 | 107.5 | 114.2 | 121.7 | 124.3 |
| 141.3 | 160.7 | 118.5 | 173.6 | 107.7 | 130.4 | 143.2 | 121.4 |
| 197.5 | 229.5 | 210.2 | 190.5 | 133.3 | 167.5 | 202.3 | 122.4 |
| 107.9 | 133.1 | 86.3 | 190.2 | 127.3 | 155.3 | 164.2 | 172.5 |
| 195.9 | 227.4 | 194.2 | 202.5 | 175.9 | 221.7 | 206.3 | 209.9 |
| - 0.8 | - 0.9 | - 7.6 | $+6.3$ | +32.0 | +32.4 | $+2.0$ | +71.5 |
| +6.3 | $+6.0$ | - 0.6 | +10.4 | +28.7 | +37.5 | $+10.0$ | +63.0 |
| Ontario |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 133.9 | 158.9 | 136.2 | 151.6 | 101.6 | 109.5 | 135.2 |  |
| 134.5 | 174.3 | 131.1 | 158.9 | 109.5 | 110.0 | 144.5 | 84.3 |
| 205.8 | 274.4 | 230.0 | 176.7 | 132.3 | 147.7 | 185.2 | 86.7 |
| 156.8 | 160.9 | 110.9 | 173.4 | 153.6 | 136.2 | 197.1 | 128.9 |
| 225.2 | 268.9 | 216.1 | 186.9 | 200.1 | 202.2 | 203.7 | 152.4 |
| + 9.4 | -2.0 | -6.0 | + 5.8 | +51.2 | +36.9 | +10.0 | +75.8 |
| +20.0 | $+6.0$ | $+2.7$ | $+8.8$ | +55.9 | +38.8 | +16.3 | +72.1 |

(a) Includes men's furnishings.
(b) Based on sales including the Federal tax introduced in june, 1942.

Unadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Provinces - (Average for $1935-1939=100$ ) (Figures for the current yoar are subject to final revision)

| Year and Month | General Index | Country General | Depart ment | Variety | Food | Restaurant | Family Clothin: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Prairie Provinces |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March, 1943 | 134.0 | 108.8 | 137.3 | 142.4 | 14. है | 15C.? | 72. 5 |
| March, 1944 | 156.C | 128.1 | 166.2 | 151.8 | 165.6 | 178.0 | 137.5 |
| March, 1945 | 183.6 | 146.1 | 199.8 | 188.3 | 182.4 | 194.0 | 213.8 |
| 1546 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 161.4 | 131.3 | 151.7 | 159.2 | 169.9 | 185.3 | 185.6 |
| March | 204,6 | 151.5 | 224.9 | 191.5 | 205.0 | 221.5 | 234.0 |
| \% Change. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March, 1946 | +11.4 | $+3.7$ | +12.6 | $+1.7$ | $+12.4$ | +14.2 | + 9.4 |
| March, 1945. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \% Change, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jano-Mar., 1946 | +12.4 | $+5.4$ | +11.6 | + 2.4 | +13.4 | +12.8 | +18.0 |
| Jan, -lar, 1945 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

British Columbia

| March, $1943 \ldots$ | 153.2 | 122.3 | 153.5 | 129.4 | 157.1 | 169.5 | 147.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| March, 1944 | 164.3 | 135.6 | 1.68.7 | 120.6 | 169.8 | 178.0 | 138. 6 |
| March, 1945 ........ $1946$ | 191.0 | 154.4 | 202.0 | 152.2 | 189.5 | 180.8 | 182.7 |
| February | 175.6 | 151,3 | 170.4 | 134.4 | 171.7 | 172.8 | 173.4 |
| March | 21 Cl | 174.3 | 221.4 | 149.4 | 201.0 | 152.9 | 185.7 |
| \% Change. $\frac{\text { March, } 1946}{\text { March, } 1945} \ldots$ | $+1 \mathrm{Co}$ | +12.9 | $+9.6$ | - 1.8 | +6.1 | +6.6 | + 1.6 |
| \% Change, $\frac{\text { Jan - Mar }}{\text { Jan }} \text { Maro } 1946$ | +12.8 | +18.1 | +13.0 | $+3.0$ | + 8.9 | +5.4 | $+10.2$ |

ITnadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Provinces - (Average for 1935-1939 = 100) (Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Men's(a) } \\ & \text { Clothing } \end{aligned}$ | Wornen's Clothing | Shoes | Drugs | Furniture | Hardware | $\begin{aligned} & \text { (b) } \\ & \text { Jewellery } \end{aligned}$ | Radio and Electrical |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Prairie Provinces |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.04 | 141.8 | 126.\% | 156.4 | 115.3 | 121.4 | 158.9 | 131.6 |
| 158.8 | 174.1 | 132.6 | 171.9 | 135.7 | 144.9 | 193.2 | 130.7 |
| 206.5 | 244.5 | 217.5 | 189.9 | 159.1 | 191.8 | 205.7 | 150.3 |
| 192.8 | 157.3 | 140.6 | 188.1 | 192.4 | 196.1 | 217.4 | 182.1 |
| 219.2 | 228.7 | 215.0 | 204.9 | 229.1 | 230.9 | 271.8 | 254.6 |
| +6.2 | -6.5 | - 2.1 | + 7.9 | +44.0 | $+2 \mathrm{C} .4$ | +32.1 | +69.4 |
| +21.5 | + 0.2 | +6.9 | +9.5 | +44.6 | +22.6 | +21.3 | +46.0 |
| British Colurabia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 142.2 | 178.3 | 172.3 | 177.2 | 145.0 | 155.1 | 147.6 | 123.6 |
| 1.42 .1 | 200.3 | 180.4 | 194.0 | 147.4 | 172.9 | 162.9 | 111.6 |
| 177.8 | 250.8 | 244.6 | 218.0 | 178.5 | 213.1 | 204.8 | 230.6 |
| 218.4 | 169.3 | 202.9 | 216.5 | 207.7 | 220.3 | 195.1 | 169.3 |
| 202.2 | 237.9 | 250.9 | 235.8 | 256.0 | 282.2 | 229.5 | 207.3 |
| +13.7 | - 5.1 | + 2.6 | $+8.2$ | +43.4 | +32.4 | +12.1 | +58.7 |
| +24.2 | $+0.5$ | + 3.5 | $+8.7$ | +34.4 | +34.7 | +11.8 | +57.7 |

(a) Includes men's furnishings.
(b) Based on sales including the Federal tax introduced in June, 1942.

## DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

(Based on dollar $\frac{\text { March, } 1945 \text { and March, } 1946}{\text { sales of } 17 \text { firms including mail order houses) }}$

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { March, } \\ 1945 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March, } \\ 1946 \end{gathered}$ | \% Change, 1946/1945 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TOTAL SALES, ALL DEPARTMENTS | \% $36.779,876$ | $40,819,371$ | +11.0 |
| 1. Women's dresses, coats and suits | 5,077,791 | 5,300,390 | + 4.4 |
| 2. Girls ' and inients wear | 1,936,558 | 1,911,520 | - 1.3 |
| 3. Hosiery and gloves | 1,432,862 | 1,432,512 | (a) |
| 4. Lingerie and corsets | 1,472,734 | 1,600,204 | $+8.7$ |
| 5. Millinery | 641,112 | 558,717 | -12.9 |
| 6. Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5). | 10,561,057 | 10,803,343 | $+2.3$ |
| 7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings ..... | 4,321,554 | 4,562,264 | + 5.6 |
| 8. Drugs and toilet articles and preparations ... | 934,331 | 996,087 | + 6.6 |
| 9. Piece goods | 3,174,057 | 3,202,592 | $+0.9$ |
| 10. Smallwares | 1,220,448 | 1,287,210 | + 5.5 |
| 11. Food and kindred products | 2,845,762 | 2,781,916 | - 2.2 |
| 12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs) | 2,103,197 | 2,772,955 | +31.8 |
| 13. Home furnishings | 2,432,112 | 2,890,499 | +18.8 |
| 14. Household appliances and electrical supplies | 544,090 | 1,072,738 | +97.2 |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils | 1,547,005 | 2,096,880 | +35.5 |
| 16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies .... | 230,178 | 558,077 | +142.5 |
| 17. Shoes and other footwear . .................... | 2,772,033 | 2,875,985 | $+3.8$ |
| 18. Stationery, books and magazines ............. | 519,526 | 608,974 | +17.2 |
| 19. All other departments, total.. | 3,574,526 | 4,309,851 | +20.6 |

[^1]
## DEPARTIFNT STORE SAIES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED NEPARTMENTS

$$
\text { Var, -Mar: } 1445 \text { and Jar. - Mar. } 1 \text { gat }
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text { Jan.-Mar., Jan.-Mar., } & \text { \% Change, } \\
1945 & 1946 & 1946 / 1945
\end{array}
$$

| TOTAL SALES, ALL IEPARTMENTS | 83,485,783 | 95,039,138 | +13.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Women's dresses, coats and suits | 10,087,310 | 10,992,586 | $+9.0$ |
| 2. Gi-ls, and infants wear | 3,551,245 | $3,539,814$ | - 0.3 |
| 3. Hosiery and gloves | 3,222,948 | 3,291,849 | $+2.1$ |
| 4. Lingerie and corsets | 3,609,699 | 3,890,304 | $+7.8$ |
| 5. Millinery | 1,06C,483 | $1,003,752$ | $-5.3$ |
| 6. Women's and children's apparel-(Total, 1-5). | 21,531,685 | 22,718,305 | $+5 . E$ |
| 7. Men's and boys* clothing and furnishings | 8,679.067 | 9,765,787 | +12.5 |
| 8. Drugs and toilet articles and preparations | 2,548,526 | $2,745,545$ | +7.7 |
| 9. Piece goods | 8,125,970 | $8,317.995$ | $+2.4$ |
| 10. Smallwares | 3,082,226 | 3,343,115 | + 8. 5 |
| 11. Food and kindred products | $7,537,423$ | 7,812,683 | +3.7 |
| 12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs).. | 5,204,253 | 6,814,840 | $+30.9$ |
| 13. Home furnishings | $5,826.663$ | 6,314,529 | +18.7 |
| 14. Houschold appliances and electrical supnlies. | $1,385,856$ | 2,613,004 | +88.5 |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils ................ | $3,250,331$ | 4,395,505 | +35.2 |
| 16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies | 642,703 | $1,414,296$ | +120.1 |
| 17. Shoes and other footwoar | $5,516,861$ | 5,958,094 | $+8.0$ |
| 18. Stationery, books and magazines ............. | 1,453,946 | $1,763,165$ | +21.3 |
| 19. All other departments, total ................ | 8,700,273 | 10,462,275 | +20. 5 |


[^0]:    (a) Based on sales including the Federal tax introduced in June, 1942.
    (b) Hot available。

[^1]:    (a) Change of less than 0.1 per cent.

