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Monthly Indexes of Retail Sales in Canada, May, 1946
(1935-1939=100)

Dollar sales of Canadian retail merchants in May moved 2 per cent above the preceding month of April and recorded a gain of 19 per cent over May of last year. These results are based on reports submitted by a representative sample of chain and independent stores operating in fourteen different kinds of business. They do not exactly reflect changes in the physical volume of business, since no allowances are made for price changes. The Bureau's retail price index, however, has risen only moderately since ceilings on various commodities were lifted in the early months of this year, which suggests that by far the larger part of the sales increase represents greater turnover of merchandise. Unadjusted indexes of sales (on the base, 1935 to 1939 = 100) stood at 216.9 for May, 1946, 212.0 for April, 1946 and 182.0 for May, 1945.

The cumulative increase for the first five months of this year compared with the same period of 1945 was 15 per cent, an advance of one point from the increase recorded to the end of April. The experience of the past several years has shown that the percentage increase recorded in the first five months of the year approximates very closely the increase in sales for the entire twelve-month period. If this relationship holds true for 1946, an annual sales increase of from 14 to 16 per cent over 1945 may be anticipated. But with the increase in many lines of consumers' goods which should be available before the end of the year this gain may be exceeded.

The level of business for the fourteen trades stands 63.6 per cent higher in 1946 than in 1941, the year in which the last complete Census of retail establishments was taken. The largest increase in the first five months of this year compared with the corresponding period of the Census year was that for jewellery stores whose sales have more than doubled in the five-year interval. Part of this increase must be attributed to the retail sales tax which was introduced in 1942. Although furniture stores and radio and electrical stores have made rapid strides in recent months to recover ground lost during the period in which the items in which they specialize were in short supply, their increases over 1941 are still lowest, amounting to 50 and 40 per cent respectively.

May results indicated little change in the pattern of the increase from that established in earlier months of the year. Those trades which reported the largest increases in the first four months of the year continued to do so in May, and in practically all cases the May increases exceeded average gains for the January-to-April period. Smallest gains occurred in food, drug and shoe stores.

General Merchandise Group: Over a limited period of time the trend in the sales of department stores has been regarded as a fair indicator of the average trend in retail business exclusive of the automotive trade, because of the diversity of merchandise handled in these stores. Increases in department store sales of 28 per

cent for May and of 20 per cent in cumulative results for the first five months of this year, when viewed in the light of substantially smaller gains for retail trade as a whole, reveal a remarkable deviation from this long-standing relationship. The condition can, of course, be attributed to the fact that department stores feature many commodities which are in especially heavy consumer demand at present. The May increase for country general stores was 17 per cent, while an increase of 12 per cent was reported over the five-month period to the end of May. Variety stores reported sales 15 per cent higher for May, an increase which is somewhat below the April gain of 24 per cent. The reduction in the extent of the increase between April and May is partially due to the fact that variety stores shared more fully in customary Easter purchasing than did many other trades. Variety stores were among the slowest in gaining momentum when expansive sales tendencies became apparent some months ago and their sales increase to the end of May stands at only 8 per cent.

Food Group: Grocery, combination and meat stores make up the sample from which the Food store index is compiled, and these, as well as restaurants, maintained approximately the same moderate rate of increase in May as was reported for these trades in earlier months of the year. May increases of 11 and 10 per cent respectively compared with gains of 9 and 7 per cent in the cumulative results.

Clothing Group: The increases for May in the stores of the clothing group were considerably reduced from those reported for April. These stores are affected to a greater extent by Easter purchasing than are most other retail outlets, and the larger April increases were partially accounted for by the volume of Easter trading which they enjoyed. Family clothing stores and men's wear stores recorded sizable gains of 28 and 23 per cent respectively in May, gains which were somewhat greater than those recorded in the cumulative comparisons. An 18 per cent increase in sales of ladies' apparel shops was almost on a level with the average increase in retail business and was somewhat higher than a 13 per cent advance in the results for the first five months of this year over last. The increase in sales of shoe stores was held to approximately the same moderate proportions as the increase for the five-month period, the May increase of 11 per cent comparing with a cumulative gain of 8 per cent.

Household and Personal Effects Group: Increases for radio and electrical stores continue to feature the results and a 90 per cent increase was shown in May of this year over last. Furniture stores did not maintain the same margin of increase in May as that recorded in the first four months of the year, although the 32 per cent increase for the month under review was quite substantial. Hardware stores ranked second to the radio and electrical trade with a 46 per cent increase in May. This gain is somewhat greater than the cumulative increase of 36 per cent for the first five months of the year. Hardware store sales in the last two months have reached a level never before attained. Most of this sales expansion can be attributed to the brisk activity in building construction and renovation. Jewellery stores, with a 31 per cent increase for May, as compared with a 20 per cent advance for the year to date, are benefitting from the existing demand for high-priced luxury items. The price factor may be more important in the case of jewellery stores than in other trades handling staple commodity items, as a result of recent increases in the price of sterling silver. Drug stores experienced a relatively moderate advance of 12 per cent in May, an increase which was only slightly higher than the 10 per cent gain in cumulative results for the first five months of the year.

Chain candy stores reported sales up 56 per cent over May, 1945. An average increase of 35 per cent in the first five months of the year was obtained. The value of merchandise retailed by furriers in May was 48 per cent above May, 1945 volume.

Regional Trends

Increases in this year over last, both in May and in the comparisons for the first five months of the two years, were highest in western Canada. The Prairie Provinces led other areas as sales rose 23 per cent in May and 18 per cent in the five-month period. Increases for Ontario and British Columbia were almost identical, but were slightly lower than gains recorded for the Prairies. Quebec sales were up 18 per cent for May and 14 per cent in the cumulative results. The Maritime Provinces reported sales 15 per cent higher in May, an increase which represents a recovery from comparatively minor gains recorded for that province in earlier months of the year. The average increase for the first five months of this year over last was only 9 per cent.

Departmental Analysis of Department Store Sales

An analysis of the May, 1945 and 1946 figures by departments illustrates the continuing wide expansion in sales of radios and of household appliances. Hardware sales in department stores increased 52 per cent in May, a gain which is somewhat larger than those made by this department in earlier months of the year. Sales of furniture and of home furnishings also showed increases which exceeded the average gain for all departments.

Comparison of Retail Sales in Canada, for 1945 and 1946, by Kinds of Business
(Comparisons are based on dollar sales. No corrections have been made for higher prices.)

| Kind of Business | Sales in May, 1946 Compared With Sales In | | | Sales in Jan.-May, 1946 Compared With Sales In | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|---|-------------------|
| | May, 1941 | May, 1945 | Apr. 1946 | Jan.-May, 1941 | Jan.-May, 1945 |
| General Index | +53.7 | +19.2 | + 2.3 | +63.6 | +15.0 |
| General Merchandise Group: | | | | | |
| Country General Stores | +68.2 | +17.2 | +14.3 | +70.7 | +12.2 |
| Department Stores | +55.4 | +28.2 | - 2.1 | +66.7 | +19.9 |
| Variety Stores | +37.9 | +14.7 | - 0.5 | +50.9 | + 8.3 |
| Food Group: | | | | | |
| Food Stores | +44.8 | +10.6 | + 4.3 | +53.3 | + 9.4 |
| Restaurants | +73.7 | + 9.5 | + 1.4 | +80.6 | + 7.4 |
| Clothing Group: | | | | | |
| Family Clothing Stores | +65.9 | +27.5 | - 4.6 | +82.0 | +21.3 |
| Men's Clothing Stores | +53.3 | +23.4 | - 5.8 | +68.7 | +21.6 |
| Women's Clothing Stores | +65.9 | +17.7 | - 9.5 | +76.4 | +12.8 |
| Shoe Stores | +47.7 | +11.0 | - 1.9 | +65.3 | + 8.2 |
| Household and Personal Effects Group: | | | | | |
| Drug Stores | +58.0 | +11.9 | + 0.7 | +62.6 | +10.4 |
| Furniture Stores | +25.4 | +32.0 | - 2.7 | +49.7 | +38.3 |
| Hardware Stores | +72.7 | +45.5 | +16.3 | +94.2 | +36.2 |
| Jewellery Stores (a) | +103.1 | +31.1 | + 5.5 | +104.0 | +20.1 |
| Radio and Electrical Stores | +31.3 | +20.0 | 7.0 | +40.2 | +72.7 |

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

Index Numbers of Retail 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 |
| May, 1939 | 107.7 | 103.0 | 108.0 | 99.6 | 101.4 | 98.4 | 106.9 | 107.7 |
| May, 1941 | 141.1 | 133.2 | 126.9 | 112.7 | 134.3 | 129.2 | 159.8 | 159.7 |
| May, 1943 | 165.3 | 157.3 | 162.8 | 150.4 | 139.1 | 138.7 | 190.0 | 184.8 |
| May, 1944 | 177.9 | 171.0 | 180.2 | 166.5 | 166.2 | 160.0 | 191.1 | 191.8 |
| May, 1945 | 182.0 | 175.9 | 182.1 | 168.5 | 162.8 | 157.3 | 192.0 | 194.9 |
| 1945 | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | |
| January | 160.2 | 196.4 | 138.1 | 180.0 | 137.0 | 182.4 | 144.1 | 227.7 |
| February | 167.0 | 212.6 | 139.8 | 187.9 | 162.3 | 215.7 | 157.6 | 233.4 |
| March | 210.2 | 229.1 | 168.8 | 197.3 | 222.2 | 258.7 | 199.9 | 247.4 |
| April | 212.0 | 211.6 | 186.7 | 201.5 | 213.2 | 207.3 | 221.3 | 242.2 |
| May | 216.9 | 208.2 | 213.4 | 196.4 | 208.7 | 201.6 | 220.3 | 222.7 |

| Year and Month | Food | | Restaurants | | Family Clothing | | Men's (a) Clothing | |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| May, 1939 | 109.7 | 108.7 | 100.5 | 98.7 | (b) | (b) | 95.0 | 98.0 |
| May, 1941 | 146.8 | 141.4 | 121.0 | 117.3 | 145.3 | 138.5 | 135.4 | 137.0 |
| May, 1943 | 176.7 | 167.1 | 178.8 | 177.3 | 182.1 | 171.0 | 162.9 | 160.5 |
| May, 1944 | 178.5 | 175.4 | 188.8 | 184.7 | 194.2 | 186.6 | 181.6 | 185.9 |
| May, 1945 | 192.1 | 189.6 | 191.9 | 187.2 | 189.0 | 183.8 | 168.3 | 174.3 |
| 1945 | | | | | | | | |
| 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 |
| December | 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 | 213.4 | 197.4 | 209.7 | 213.6 | 231.1 | 280.2 | 219.8 | 260.8 |
| April | 203.8 | 211.5 | 207.4 | 208.3 | 252.6 | 214.0 | 220.3 | 195.1 |
| May | 212.5 | 208.8 | 210.2 | 204.4 | 241.0 | 233.9 | 207.6 | 215.1 |

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

Index Numbers of Retail 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 | Women's Clothing | | Shoes | | Drugs | | Furniture | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| May, 1939 | 104.2 | 100.4 | 112.4 | 100.1 | 102.7 | 105.7 | 125.2 | 99.9 |
| May, 1941 | 141.1 | 133.3 | 143.7 | 127.0 | 126.5 | 126.1 | 175.7 | 140.2 |
| May, 1943 | 181.1 | 170.4 | 176.8 | 150.9 | 159.3 | 162.4 | 149.2 | 119.1 |
| May, 1944 | 202.5 | 192.0 | 197.4 | 177.2 | 168.6 | 173.6 | 165.8 | 132.3 |
| May, 1945 | 198.9 | 190.8 | 191.1 | 173.6 | 178.6 | 183.8 | 166.9 | 134.8 |
| 1945 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 217.9 | 196.3 | 261.1 | 190.4 | 184.7 | 190.8 | 164.3 | 159.7 |
| July | 165.8 | 203.6 | 189.8 | 215.3 | 178.5 | 186.2 | 135.0 | 179.8 |
| August | 166.6 | 212.4 | 177.6 | 203.1 | 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 | 197.7 | 197.0 | 196.4 | 190.3 | 169.7 | 144.0 |
| November | 243.3 | 217.4 | 208.9 | 214.7 | 195.5 | 197.7 | 164.6 | 153.7 |
| December | 304.5 | 197.2 | 257.6 | 178.6 | 286.2 | 225.9 | 166.1 | 140.5 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | | |
| January | 149.7 | 208.6 | 111.0 | 158.6 | 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 |
| March | 252.5 | 301.4 | 215.1 | 284.6 | 199.9 | 201.0 | 194.7 | 223.5 |
| April | 258.8 | 202.2 | 216.4 | 173.8 | 198.5 | 206.2 | 226.3 | 209.9 |
| May | 234.1 | 223.7 | 212.2 | 190.4 | 199.9 | 204.4 | 220.3 | 178.5 |

| Year and Month | Hardware | | (a) Jewellery | | Radio and Electrical | |
|-----------------|----------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| May, 1939 | 136.9 | 101.7 | 82.1 | (b) | 122.4 | 105.3 |
| May, 1941 | 172.7 | 128.3 | 127.2 | 141.8 | 167.0 | 143.7 |
| May, 1943 | 175.6 | 133.0 | 161.2 | 186.8 | 117.0 | 104.7 |
| May, 1944 | 200.9 | 149.3 | 181.9 | 202.7 | 115.6 | 99.4 |
| May, 1945 | 204.9 | 155.2 | 197.1 | 219.7 | 115.4 | 99.3 |
| 1945 | | | | | | |
| June | 218.4 | 177.3 | 230.6 | 243.2 | 116.0 | 121.1 |
| July | 209.2 | 194.8 | 219.1 | 269.2 | 108.1 | 129.7 |
| August | 202.9 | 189.6 | 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 |
| 1946 | | | | | | |
| 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 | 219.1 | 302.4 | 221.6 | 289.8 | 189.0 | 220.7 |
| April | 256.3 | 250.4 | 244.9 | 297.4 | 205.0 | 209.1 |
| May | 298.2 | 225.0 | 258.3 | 287.9 | 219.3 | 188.6 |

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

(b) Not available.

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 General | Department | Variety | Food | Restaurant | Family Clothing |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|------------|-----------------|
| Maritime Provinces | | | | | | | |
| May, 1943 | 199.8 | 180.6 | 169.9 | 251.3 | 190.7 | 244.6 | 218.1 |
| May, 1944 | 220.3 | 206.8 | 211.5 | 252.5 | 202.8 | 258.0 | 247.9 |
| May, 1945 | 218.7 | 210.5 | 202.7 | 237.2 | 211.3 | 250.8 | 227.1 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | |
| April | 232.5 | 194.6 | 238.6 | 244.4 | 214.7 | 247.3 | 295.3 |
| May | 252.1 | 244.0 | 247.9 | 245.6 | 228.8 | 266.0 | 293.2 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| May, 1946 | +15.3 | +15.9 | +22.3 | + 3.5 | + 8.3 | + 6.1 | +29.1 |
| May, 1945 | | | | | | | |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-May, 1946 .. | + 8.9 | +10.8 | +13.5 | - 2.5 | + 5.8 | + 0.9 | +17.5 |
| Jan.-May, 1945 .. | | | | | | | |
| Quebec | | | | | | | |
| May, 1943 | 180.5 | 189.7 | 161.3 | 223.6 | 182.9 | 167.9 | 210.7 |
| May, 1944 | 190.7 | 211.5 | 189.3 | 228.4 | 180.6 | 177.3 | 218.7 |
| May, 1945 | 193.6 | 206.6 | 183.2 | 229.2 | 193.2 | 193.4 | 210.6 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | |
| April | 222.0 | 202.7 | 238.3 | 262.5 | 209.4 | 206.7 | 281.4 |
| May | 227.5 | 239.5 | 239.5 | 270.7 | 210.6 | 213.8 | 271.8 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| May, 1946 | +17.5 | +15.9 | +30.7 | +18.1 | + 9.0 | +10.5 | +29.1 |
| May, 1945 | | | | | | | |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-May, 1946 .. | +13.7 | +11.2 | +23.0 | +10.8 | + 7.2 | +10.2 | +23.2 |
| Jan.-May, 1945 .. | | | | | | | |
| Ontario | | | | | | | |
| May, 1943 | 155.5 | 158.4 | 129.9 | 171.4 | 170.9 | 177.7 | 147.7 |
| May, 1944 | 166.7 | 167.7 | 157.4 | 170.9 | 172.3 | 192.7 | 156.1 |
| May, 1945 | 170.7 | 163.8 | 152.9 | 174.7 | 186.6 | 191.8 | 152.4 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | |
| April | 202.8 | 167.3 | 203.4 | 201.8 | 201.2 | 203.4 | 207.7 |
| May | 204.1 | 195.7 | 200.2 | 199.6 | 206.4 | 202.6 | 189.3 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| May, 1946 | +19.6 | +19.5 | +30.9 | +14.3 | +10.6 | + 5.6 | +24.2 |
| May, 1945 | | | | | | | |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-May, 1946 .. | +15.9 | +11.9 | +21.9 | + 8.2 | +10.2 | + 4.0 | +18.8 |
| Jan.-May, 1945 .. | | | | | | | |

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

| Men's(a) Clothing | Women's Clothing | Shoes | Drugs | Furniture | Hardware | (b) Jewellery | Radio and Electrical |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-----------|----------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Maritime Provinces | | | | | | | |
| 242.0 | 266.6 | 225.5 | 192.8 | 223.7 | 192.7 | 282.0 | 145.1 |
| 260.7 | 305.2 | 240.3 | 203.3 | 254.3 | 225.6 | 284.2 | 157.5 |
| 232.3 | 300.1 | 221.6 | 210.3 | 244.6 | 219.8 | 309.4 | 135.7 |
| 286.8 | 342.2 | 231.0 | 228.6 | 281.2 | 231.2 | 306.1 | 246.1 |
| 284.1 | 358.6 | 248.4 | 224.8 | 321.4 | 311.4 | 368.9 | 286.7 |
| +22.3 | +19.5 | +12.1 | + 6.9 | +31.4 | +41.7 | +19.2 | +111.0 |
| +16.2 | + 5.6 | + 0.8 | + 5.9 | +33.9 | +23.9 | + 1.8 | +61.6 |
| Quebec | | | | | | | |
| 175.0 | 191.0 | 175.8 | 155.5 | 163.6 | 197.3 | 134.0 | 150.5 |
| 193.9 | 203.1 | 192.9 | 164.1 | 188.7 | 232.6 | 160.0 | 146.2 |
| 175.6 | 190.9 | 175.5 | 175.5 | 180.7 | 236.7 | 164.8 | 155.4 |
| 205.5 | 234.3 | 200.2 | 197.8 | 218.5 | 259.2 | 265.6 | 234.8 |
| 199.7 | 222.1 | 191.0 | 195.6 | 230.2 | 323.2 | 239.8 | 235.9 |
| +13.7 | +16.3 | + 8.8 | +11.5 | +27.4 | +36.5 | +45.5 | +51.8 |
| +12.9 | +13.0 | + 6.7 | +10.7 | +29.2 | +33.2 | +25.4 | +62.4 |
| Ontario | | | | | | | |
| 146.5 | 170.7 | 166.8 | 152.0 | 132.8 | 158.7 | 149.6 | 93.6 |
| 165.2 | 192.5 | 188.0 | 158.4 | 142.1 | 177.5 | 169.3 | 89.9 |
| 154.6 | 188.8 | 181.4 | 168.3 | 149.5 | 174.8 | 194.9 | 86.9 |
| 214.2 | 263.3 | 208.2 | 183.9 | 207.0 | 227.5 | 220.8 | 163.6 |
| 195.5 | 227.6 | 200.3 | 187.5 | 194.0 | 270.2 | 246.3 | 178.2 |
| +26.5 | +20.6 | +10.4 | +11.4 | +29.8 | +54.6 | +26.4 | +105.1 |
| +24.8 | +15.3 | + 9.2 | +10.4 | +43.4 | +42.6 | +20.9 | +85.0 |

(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 year are subject to final revision)

| Year and Month | General Index | Country General | Department | Variety | Food | Restau- rant | Family Clothing |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Prairie Provinces | | | | | | | |
| May, 1943 | 154.4 | 145.1 | 129.6 | 180.1 | 173.9 | 174.8 | 178.8 |
| May, 1944 | 170.2 | 161.0 | 155.5 | 182.3 | 179.3 | 181.9 | 194.9 |
| May, 1945 | 174.6 | 166.4 | 151.3 | 178.3 | 196.4 | 183.3 | 195.3 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | |
| April | 211.8 | 186.4 | 207.2 | 222.1 | 196.5 | 213.1 | 276.4 |
| May | 214.3 | 192.1 | 193.1 | 212.6 | 226.0 | 213.2 | 248.2 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| May, 1946 | +22.7 | +15.4 | +27.6 | +19.2 | +15.1 | +16.3 | +27.1 |
| May, 1945 | | | | | | | |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-May, 1946 .. | +17.7 | +11.7 | +18.6 | +11.2 | +14.6 | +14.0 | +25.3 |
| Jan.-May, 1945 .. | | | | | | | |
| British Columbia | | | | | | | |
| May, 1943 | 161.3 | 141.4 | 147.3 | 137.6 | 173.5 | 176.1 | 166.5 |
| May, 1944 | 171.9 | 157.5 | 166.2 | 135.2 | 174.4 | 171.8 | 181.6 |
| May, 1945 | 183.5 | 176.1 | 174.8 | 145.2 | 188.5 | 173.0 | 194.3 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | |
| April | 212.6 | 178.6 | 215.1 | 176.6 | 196.8 | 193.2 | 218.8 |
| May | 221.1 | 222.0 | 214.1 | 164.8 | 210.3 | 197.0 | 252.6 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| May, 1946 | +20.5 | +26.1 | +22.5 | +13.5 | +11.6 | +13.9 | +30.0 |
| May, 1945 | | | | | | | |
| % Change, | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-May, 1946 .. | +16.6 | +21.4 | +17.4 | +11.5 | +10.5 | + 8.3 | +18.6 |
| Jan.-May, 1945 .. | | | | | | | |

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

| Men's(a) Clothing | Women's Clothing | Shoes | Drugs | Furniture | Hardware | (b) Jewellery | Radio and Electrical |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-----------|----------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Prairie Provinces | | | | | | | |
| 164.9 | 163.2 | 175.0 | 163.7 | 116.2 | 174.2 | 176.9 | 138.5 |
| 189.6 | 194.5 | 199.1 | 173.7 | 129.7 | 195.7 | 206.2 | 143.9 |
| 165.1 | 195.5 | 203.6 | 181.4 | 139.8 | 209.7 | 204.2 | 152.2 |
| 243.8 | 255.8 | 246.4 | 210.3 | 255.5 | 287.8 | 260.3 | 288.9 |
| 224.1 | 220.5 | 230.7 | 210.2 | 224.7 | 298.5 | 285.9 | 322.8 |
| +35.7 | +12.8 | +13.3 | +15.9 | +60.7 | +42.3 | +40.0 | +112.1 |
| +28.8 | + 9.0 | +13.2 | +12.3 | +50.7 | +32.5 | +26.5 | +69.7 |
| British Columbia | | | | | | | |
| 143.7 | 196.8 | 191.1 | 173.4 | 141.5 | 181.5 | 171.9 | 109.9 |
| 151.7 | 219.2 | 222.1 | 199.1 | 149.7 | 213.9 | 185.3 | 109.4 |
| 169.1 | 235.0 | 253.4 | 213.8 | 157.4 | 229.7 | 196.2 | 99.7 |
| 202.1 | 273.3 | 268.5 | 234.4 | 271.2 | 324.2 | 239.5 | 195.8 |
| 203.9 | 268.1 | 293.2 | 238.9 | 215.6 | 351.9 | 240.7 | 198.7 |
| +20.6 | +14.1 | +15.7 | +11.7 | +37.0 | +53.2 | +22.7 | +99.3 |
| +24.6 | + 9.0 | +10.2 | + 9.7 | +42.6 | +42.0 | +17.0 | +68.6 |

(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

May, 1945 and May, 1946

(Based on dollar sales of 18 firms including mail order houses)

| | May, 1945 | May, 1946 | % Change, 1946/1945 |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | |
| TOTAL SALES, ALL DEPARTMENTS | 29,468,212 | 37,727,815 | +28.0 |
| 1. Women's dresses, coats and suits | 3,548,388 | 4,500,131 | +26.8 |
| 2. Girls' and infants' wear | 1,166,961 | 1,314,303 | +12.6 |
| 3. Hosiery and gloves | 1,133,880 | 1,294,214 | +14.1 |
| 4. Lingerie and corsets | 1,209,174 | 1,442,531 | +19.3 |
| 5. Millinery | 382,688 | 448,755 | +17.3 |
| 6. Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5) | 7,441,091 | 8,999,934 | +20.9 |
| 7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings | 2,975,142 | 3,597,207 | +20.9 |
| 8. Drugs and toilet articles and preparations ... | 869,170 | 942,757 | + 8.5 |
| 9. Piece goods | 2,387,953 | 2,840,024 | +18.9 |
| 10. Smallwares | 995,000 | 1,235,248 | +24.1 |
| 11. Food and kindred products | 2,573,653 | 2,838,572 | +10.3 |
| 12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs).. | 2,066,556 | 2,763,248 | +33.7 |
| 13. Home furnishings | 2,276,405 | 3,063,230 | +34.6 |
| 14. Household appliances and electrical supplies . | 528,396 | 1,103,148 | +108.8 |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils | 1,389,834 | 2,117,951 | +52.4 |
| 16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies | 170,419 | 528,969 | +210.4 |
| 17. Shoes and other footwear | 2,260,345 | 2,700,085 | +19.5 |
| 18. Stationery, books and magazines | 418,858 | 518,120 | +23.7 |
| 19. All other departments, total | 3,115,390 | 4,479,322 | +43.8 |

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS (APRIL, 1945 AND APRIL, 1946)

(Revised)

| | April, 1945 | April, 1946 | % Change, 1946/1945 |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | |
| 14. Household appliances and electrical supplies . | 533,938 | 1,084,245 | +103.1 |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils | 1,503,421 | 2,055,039 | +36.7 |

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