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CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RETAIL SALES,
JANUARY, 1929, TO APRIL, 1933.

Index Numbers of Retail Sales issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for April, 1933, (base January, 1929=100) show increased sales for seven groups and decreased sales for four groups as compared with March, 1933. The combined index rose from 72.8 to 83.8. General indexes for March and April, 1932, were 85.2 and 92.3 respectively.

The Candy, Clothing and General and Departmental indexes have been revised in order to take account of different methods of accounting used by companies reporting. No correction of the index numbers has been made for seasonal influences, nor is there any allowance for price changes.

The index numbers are based on returns from 83 chains, comprising approximately 2,700 stores, and 25 departmental stores. Index numbers for individual groups behaved as follows:-

Boots and Shoes rose from 51.0 in March, 1933, to 77.6 in April; Candy from 55.9 to 87.2; Clothing from 68.1 to 110.0, and Dyers and Cleaners from 73.4 to 128.7. Furniture sales increased from 42.5 to 45.6; General and Departmental from 76.2 to 93.0, and Hardware from 58.3 to 75.8.

Drugs fell from 76.9 to 71.9; Groceries and Meats from 78.6 to 73.0; Music and Radio from 20.1 to 16.5, and Restaurants from 57.2 to 56.2.

Indexes for the same groups comparing April, 1932, and April, 1933, moved as follows:-

Candy sales increased from 73.6 to 87.2; Clothing from 101.5 to 110.0, and Dyers and Cleaners from 127.8 to 128.7.

Boots and Shoes dropped from 87.3 to 77.6; Drugs from 87.4 to 71.9; Furniture from 53.6 to 45.6, and General and Departmental from 102.8 to 93.0.

Groceries and Meats decreased from 84.5 to 73.0; Hardware from 93.9 to 75.8; Music and Radio from 28.6 to 16.5, and Restaurants from 68.0 to 56.2.

