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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

Vol. 8

No. 10

MONTHLY INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES

IN

CANADA

OCTOBER 1938

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

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MONTHLY INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN CANADA, OCTOBER, 1938

The dollar value of consumer purchasing in Canada as reflected in total sales for 12 lines of retail business gained 9 per cent in October from September but was 5 per cent lower than in October a year ago. The unadjusted index of sales (on the base 1930 = 100) stood at 86.9 for October, 1938, compared with 79.7 for September, 1938, and 91.2 for October last year.

The decrease of 5 per cent below October, 1937, compared with a 2 per cent decline for the first ten months of the current year compares with the corresponding ten-month period a year ago; but it must be remembered that dollar sales were on the up-grade throughout 1937. The unfavorable October comparison is due to the fact that dollar sales in October, 1937, were considerably above the average for the first ten months of that year. On making allowances for differences in the number of business days and for normal seasonal variations, sales in October, 1938, compare favorably with the immediately preceding months, the adjusted index standing at 80.4 for October compared with 79.2 for September and 76.4 for August. The underlying trend in retail trade is therefore being well maintained and shows some degree of improvement.

The prolongation of summer weather was an important factor affecting consumer purchases especially of wearing apparel. Sales of women's clothing stores were down 10 per cent from October, 1937, while men's clothing and furnishings stores registered a decline of 15 per cent as did boot and shoe stores. Music and radio stores and furniture stores were down by 7 and 10 per cent respectively. Restaurant receipts dropped 7 per cent while candy store sales were off 11 per cent. Department stores dropped 6 per cent and variety store sales were down by 3 per cent. Grocery and meat store sales moved fractionally lower while hardware stores registered an improvement of 4 per cent.

Results for department store sales on a regional basis reflected wide variations for the month under review. Sales in the Prairie Provinces increased 3 per cent over October, 1937, but declines occurred in all other divisions. In British Columbia, sales were down 3 per cent; in Quebec, 6 per cent; in Ontario, 12 per cent; and in the Maritime Provinces, 16 per cent. Sales for Canada as a whole during the first ten months of the current year were 4 per cent below the same period in 1937. Declines for the various economic divisions for the January to October period were as follows: Quebec, 1 per cent; Prairie Provinces and British Columbia, 4 per cent; Ontario, 5 per cent; and the Maritime Provinces, 10 per cent.

Total sales of nineteen departmental firms reporting sales by departments declined 7 per cent below October, 1937. The furniture and household appliance groups showed the only increases, with gains of 2 and 3 per cent respectively. Decreases of 1 and 2 per cent occurred in sales of smallwares and drugs. Food sales were down 5 per cent, while hardware and books each dropped 7 per cent. Sales of women's and children's apparel averaged 9 per cent lower, with the various sub-groups showing decreases ranging from 6 per cent for millinery to 11 per cent for dresses, coats and suits. The largest decrease was reported for men's and boys' clothing and furnishings, sales being 14 per cent below October, 1937.

On page 6 of this bulletin will be found a table showing revised indexes for the Prairie Provinces covering the men's clothing and furnishings, women's clothing, groceries and meats, and variety groups.

Comparison of Retail Sales in Canada, for 1937 and 1938 by Kinds of Business

| Kind of Business          | October, 1938             |              |                | Cumulative Indexes           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------------|
|                           | + or - p.c. compared with |              |                |                              |
|                           | October 1930              | October 1937 | September 1938 | 10 mos. 1938<br>10 mos. 1937 |
| General Index .....       | - 19.4                    | - 4.7        | + 9.0          | - 2.2                        |
| Boots and Shoes .....     | - 23.3                    | - 14.6       | - 7.2          | - 6.2                        |
| Candy .....               | - 39.4                    | - 11.3       | + 1.5          | - 6.8                        |
| Men's Clothing .....      | - 25.7                    | - 15.3       | + 21.5         | - 8.4                        |
| Women's Clothing .....    | - 22.6                    | - 10.0       | + 28.1         | - 4.1                        |
| Departmental .....        | - 24.5                    | - 6.0        | + 12.8         | - 4.2                        |
| Drugs .....               | - 18.3                    | - 5.3        | + 2.4          | - 3.2                        |
| Furniture .....           | - 12.4                    | - 10.3       | + 9.4          | - 13.4                       |
| Groceries and Meats ..... | - 5.7                     | - 0.4        | + 5.5          | + 2.3                        |
| Hardware .....            | - 15.9                    | + 4.1        | + 3.0          | + 1.3                        |
| Music and Radio .....     | - 51.1                    | - 7.4        | + 7.4          | - 7.2                        |
| Restaurants .....         | - 47.3                    | - 6.9        | - 2.4          | - 5.3                        |
| Variety .....             | - 6.1                     | - 3.4        | + 11.5         | - 4.1                        |

INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES--(AVERAGE FOR 1930 = 100)

A. Unadjusted. B. Corrected for Number of Business Days.  
C. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations.

| Year and Month      | General Index<br>(961 Firms) |       |         | Boots and Shoes<br>(17 Chains) |       |         | Candy<br>(8 Chains) |       |         | Men's Clothing(a) (x)<br>(355 Firms) |       |         | Women's Clothing(b)<br>(234 Firms) |       |         |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|-------|---------|---------------------|-------|---------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
|                     | A                            | B     | C       | A                              | B     | C       | A                   | B     | C       | A                                    | B     | C       | A                                  | B     | C       |
| October, 1929 ..... | 126.7                        | 122.3 | 114.3   | 121.4                          | 118.6 | 122.3   | 109.8               | 108.7 | 114.4   | 194.3                                | 188.6 | 152.1   | 112.2                              | 108.8 | 113.3   |
| October, 1930 ..... | 107.8                        | 103.3 | 96.6    | 97.8                           | 94.8  | 97.7    | 86.8                | 85.3  | 89.8    | 115.4                                | 111.6 | 90.0    | 96.7                               | 92.6  | 96.5    |
| October, 1931 ..... | 91.8                         | 85.1  | 79.6    | 90.0                           | 82.2  | 84.8    | 86.2                | 80.7  | 85.0    | 81.9                                 | 74.9  | 60.4    | 81.0                               | 73.9  | 77.0    |
| October, 1932 ..... | 75.8                         | 73.1  | 68.4    | 74.2                           | 69.8  | 72.0    | 61.5                | 59.7  | 62.8    | 71.3                                 | 68.2  | 55.0    | 60.0                               | 57.2  | 59.6    |
| October, 1933 ..... | 73.7                         | 73.7  | 68.9    | 67.5                           | 67.7  | 67.5    | 57.2                | 58.6  | 61.7    | 70.0                                 | 75.7  | 61.0    | 56.1                               | 56.4  | 58.8    |
| October, 1934 ..... | 77.7                         | 75.5  | 70.5    | 68.1                           | 66.6  | 68.6    | 56.4                | 56.0  | 53.9    | 85.2                                 | 83.2  | 67.1    | 60.5                               | 59.1  | 61.5    |
| October, 1935 ..... | 80.4                         | 77.6  | 72.5    | 70.7                           | 69.1  | 71.2    | 57.4                | 56.8  | 59.8    | 88.0                                 | 85.4  | 68.9    | 62.1                               | 60.1  | 62.6    |
| October, 1936 ..... | 83.6                         | 82.1  | 76.7    | 83.0                           | 75.9  | 78.2    | 60.6                | 56.8  | 59.8    | 99.4                                 | 90.9  | 72.7    | 80.1                               | 73.2  | 59.5    |
| October, 1937 ..... | 91.2                         | 87.1  | 81.4    | 87.8                           | 82.7  | 85.2    | 59.3                | 57.1  | 60.1    | 102.1                                | 96.1  | 76.9    | 83.1                               | 78.1  | 63.5    |
| October, 1938 ..... | 86.9                         | 86.0  | 80.4    | 75.0                           | 72.7  | 75.0    | 52.6                | 51.0  | 53.7    | 86.5                                 | 84.5  | 67.6    | 74.8                               | 73.0  | 59.3    |
| <u>1937</u>         |                              |       |         |                                |       |         |                     |       |         |                                      |       |         |                                    |       |         |
| November .....      | 84.6                         | 84.7  | 79.9    | 72.4                           | 72.8  | 71.3    | 49.2                | 50.4  | 58.5    | 92.3                                 | 93.0  | 75.6    | 69.0                               | 69.4  | 62.5    |
| December .....      | 115.0                        | 117.5 | 85.8    | 129.2                          | 137.3 | 85.8    | 113.1               | 120.6 | 64.8    | 124.6                                | 129.7 | 78.1    | 94.3                               | 98.0  | 63.2    |
| <u>1938</u>         |                              |       |         |                                |       |         |                     |       |         |                                      |       |         |                                    |       |         |
| January .....       | 62.7                         | 64.5  | 78.6    | 45.3                           | 46.6  | 86.2    | 40.9                | 39.7  | 53.0    | 55.1                                 | 57.1  | 80.4    | 43.7                               | 45.3  | 68.6    |
| February .....      | 62.7                         | 66.8  | 76.8    | 39.5                           | 42.0  | 77.7    | 54.1                | 58.7  | 63.8    | 43.2                                 | 45.8  | 72.8    | 36.9                               | 39.2  | 66.4    |
| March .....         | 72.0                         | 69.6  | 78.2    | 59.0                           | 57.7  | 76.9    | 44.4                | 43.9  | 51.7    | 57.1                                 | 55.3  | 70.9    | 54.6                               | 52.8  | 61.4    |
| April .....         | 84.0                         | 83.0  | 76.2    | 91.9                           | 89.1  | 75.5    | 77.7                | 74.9  | 57.6    | 82.4                                 | 80.5  | 72.5    | 83.1                               | 81.1  | 63.3    |
| May .....           | 77.7                         | 80.0  | 76.2(f) | 76.5                           | 78.7  | 64.0    | 54.8                | 56.1  | 57.2    | 64.9                                 | 67.3  | 65.3    | 58.6                               | 60.7  | 56.7    |
| June .....          | 81.4                         | 80.9  | 80.1    | 110.2                          | 110.3 | 76.6    | 43.6                | 44.3  | 57.5    | 76.0                                 | 75.7  | 71.4    | 67.2                               | 66.9  | 59.2    |
| July .....          | 69.3                         | 68.3  | 77.6    | 74.6                           | 72.4  | 77.0    | 48.5                | 48.3  | 56.8(f) | 58.6                                 | 57.3  | 70.7    | 49.3                               | 48.1  | 56.6(f) |
| August .....        | 68.4                         | 66.5  | 76.4    | 53.3                           | 52.1  | 68.6(f) | 47.9                | 47.6  | 48.5    | 51.2                                 | 50.1  | 68.6(f) | 43.7                               | 42.6  | 60.9    |
| September .....     | 79.7                         | 80.8  | 79.2    | 80.8                           | 83.2  | 80.7    | 51.8                | 52.4  | 56.4    | 71.2                                 | 72.0  | 72.0    | 58.4                               | 59.0  | 60.9    |
| October .....       | 86.9                         | 86.0  | 80.4    | 75.0                           | 72.7  | 75.0    | 52.6                | 51.0  | 53.7    | 86.5                                 | 84.5  | 67.6    | 74.8                               | 73.0  | 59.3    |

(a) Prior to 1936 based on sales of 16 chains.  
(b) Prior to 1936 based on sales of 13 chains.  
(f) Final figures.  
(x) Includes men's furnishings.

INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES--(AVERAGE FOR 1930 = 100)

A. Unadjusted. B. Corrected for Number of Business Days.  
C. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations.

| Year and Month      | Departmental<br>(36 Firms) |       |         | Drugs<br>(24 Chains) |       |         | Furniture<br>(26 Firms) |       |         | Groceries and Meats(b)<br>(34 Chains) |       |         |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------|---------|----------------------|-------|---------|-------------------------|-------|---------|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|
|                     | A                          | B     | C(a)    | A                    | B     | C       | A                       | B     | C       | A                                     | B     | C       |
| October, 1929 ..... | 128.6                      | 122.7 | 106.7   | 106.5                | 104.5 | 105.6   | 148.3                   | 141.9 | 122.4   | 114.6                                 | 112.0 | 112.0   |
| October, 1930 ..... | 117.1                      | 111.3 | 96.8    | 98.3                 | 96.0  | 97.0    | 106.3                   | 101.7 | 87.7    | 98.4                                  | 94.7  | 94.7    |
| October, 1931 ..... | 94.4                       | 88.4  | 76.9    | 89.9                 | 86.0  | 86.8    | 101.8                   | 95.2  | 82.1    | 91.2                                  | 82.5  | 82.5    |
| October, 1932 ..... | 81.2                       | 79.2  | 68.9    | 77.6                 | 76.3  | 77.1    | 65.5                    | 63.3  | 54.6    | 76.6                                  | 72.7  | 72.7    |
| October, 1933 ..... | 81.2                       | 80.5  | 70.0    | 68.1                 | 68.5  | 69.2    | 63.1                    | 62.4  | 55.7    | 71.6                                  | 72.8  | 72.8    |
| October, 1934 ..... | 83.9                       | 80.4  | 69.9    | 71.8                 | 70.8  | 71.5    | 77.3                    | 74.0  | 66.1    | 75.3                                  | 74.4  | 74.4    |
| October, 1935 ..... | 87.6                       | 83.6  | 72.7    | 74.4                 | 72.9  | 73.6    | 89.2                    | 85.4  | 76.2    | 77.5                                  | 75.6  | 75.6    |
| October, 1936 ..... | 94.7                       | 88.7  | 77.2    | 80.7                 | 77.0  | 77.8    | 104.2                   | 97.4  | 87.0    | 85.8                                  | 77.6  | 77.6    |
| October, 1937 ..... | 94.0                       | 91.4  | 79.5    | 84.8                 | 82.6  | 83.4    | 103.8                   | 100.4 | 89.7    | 93.2                                  | 86.7  | 86.7    |
| October, 1938 ..... | 88.4                       | 89.3  | 77.7    | 80.3                 | 78.9  | 79.7    | 93.1                    | 93.3  | 83.3    | 92.8                                  | 89.6  | 89.6    |
| <b>1937</b>         |                            |       |         |                      |       |         |                         |       |         |                                       |       |         |
| November .....      | 91.9                       | 91.1  | 79.9    | 76.9                 | 78.3  | 78.3    | 93.7                    | 92.8  | 91.9    | 84.2                                  | 85.5  | 86.3    |
| December .....      | 133.7                      | 133.5 | 83.4    | 99.5                 | 97.1  | 85.2    | 99.1                    | 100.5 | 90.5    | 104.8                                 | 110.8 | 99.8    |
| <b>1938</b>         |                            |       |         |                      |       |         |                         |       |         |                                       |       |         |
| January .....       | 56.3                       | 57.8  | 78.1    | 76.0                 | 74.7  | 77.8    | 54.6                    | 56.0  | 84.8    | 79.3                                  | 82.5  | 85.9    |
| February .....      | 57.8                       | 61.5  | 76.9    | 69.7                 | 75.6  | 74.9    | 63.3                    | 67.4  | 81.1    | 81.2                                  | 86.3  | 88.0    |
| March .....         | 66.5                       | 63.5  | 75.5    | 79.0                 | 77.4  | 76.6    | 66.7                    | 63.8  | 73.4    | 89.7                                  | 87.6  | 91.3    |
| April .....         | 79.6                       | 80.5  | 75.9    | 76.9                 | 75.8  | 76.6    | 89.5                    | 89.6  | 76.6    | 94.9                                  | 91.6  | 85.6    |
| May .....           | 73.0                       | 74.9  | 73.5    | 74.1                 | 74.5  | 77.6    | 96.7                    | 99.2  | 78.8(f) | 87.2                                  | 90.7  | 88.1    |
| June .....          | 77.6                       | 76.6  | 74.4    | 76.6                 | 77.5  | 76.7    | 78.1                    | 77.3  | 78.1    | 90.9                                  | 90.8  | 90.8    |
| July .....          | 56.6                       | 57.3  | 75.3    | 75.8                 | 73.7  | 76.0    | 58.6                    | 58.7  | 75.2    | 88.1                                  | 85.0  | 86.7(f) |
| August .....        | 62.4                       | 59.8  | 74.7    | 76.3                 | 75.2  | 76.7(f) | 75.4                    | 72.1  | 72.1    | 79.5                                  | 78.5  | 85.3    |
| September .....     | 78.4                       | 79.9  | 76.8(f) | 78.4                 | 79.1  | 80.7    | 85.1                    | 84.3  | 70.2    | 88.0                                  | 88.6  | 88.6    |
| October .....       | 88.4                       | 89.3  | 77.7    | 80.3                 | 78.9  | 79.7    | 93.1                    | 93.3  | 83.3    | 92.8                                  | 89.6  | 89.6    |

(a) Revised from January, 1935, to allow for changes in seasonal adjustment factors.

(b) Entire series revised from January, 1935, to allow for change in method of calculation.

(f) Final figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES--(AVERAGE FOR 1930 = 100)

A. Unadjusted. B. Corrected for Number of Business Days.  
C. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations.

| Year and Month      | Hardware<br>(94 Firms) |       |         | Music and Radio (a)<br>(102 Firms) |       |         | Restaurants<br>(12 Chains) |       |         | Variety<br>(12 Chains) |       |         |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------|---------|------------------------------------|-------|---------|----------------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|-------|---------|
|                     | A                      | B     | C       | A                                  | B     | C       | A                          | B     | C       | A                      | B     | C       |
| October, 1929 ..... | 137.5                  | 130.5 | 113.4   | 209.9                              | 199.2 | 138.3   | 116.4                      | 114.2 | 114.2   | 125.4                  | 122.2 | 116.4   |
| October, 1930 ..... | 119.7                  | 113.6 | 98.8    | 138.7                              | 131.6 | 91.4    | 99.5                       | 97.3  | 97.3    | 105.4                  | 102.4 | 97.5    |
| October, 1931 ..... | 86.8                   | 82.3  | 71.6    | 98.6                               | 93.5  | 66.8    | 81.5                       | 78.9  | 78.9    | 107.7                  | 98.6  | 93.9    |
| October, 1932 ..... | 71.4                   | 70.4  | 61.2    | 54.6                               | 53.8  | 39.9    | 60.3                       | 59.4  | 59.4    | 87.1                   | 82.4  | 78.5    |
| October, 1933 ..... | 70.7                   | 69.7  | 60.6    | 42.4                               | 41.8  | 31.5    | 54.9                       | 54.6  | 54.6    | 80.8                   | 81.2  | 77.3    |
| October, 1934 ..... | 84.7                   | 80.4  | 69.9    | 57.5                               | 54.6  | 41.4    | 53.2                       | 52.2  | 52.2    | 86.3                   | 84.4  | 80.4    |
| October, 1935 ..... | 86.3                   | 81.9  | 71.2    | 66.6                               | 63.3  | 48.0    | 54.3                       | 53.3  | 53.3    | 90.4                   | 88.1  | 88.1    |
| October, 1936 ..... | 94.6                   | 89.4  | 77.8    | 75.1                               | 71.4  | 56.6    | 54.6                       | 52.9  | 52.9    | 100.7                  | 92.2  | 92.2    |
| October, 1937 ..... | 96.7                   | 95.0  | 82.6    | 73.2                               | 72.3  | 57.4    | 56.3                       | 55.3  | 55.3    | 102.5                  | 96.6  | 96.6    |
| October, 1938 ..... | 100.7                  | 102.8 | 89.4    | 67.8                               | 69.5  | 55.2    | 52.4                       | 51.6  | 51.6    | 99.0                   | 96.2  | 96.2    |
| <u>1937</u>         |                        |       |         |                                    |       |         |                            |       |         |                        |       |         |
| November .....      | 83.4                   | 81.8  | 81.8    | 71.7                               | 70.8  | 56.6    | 55.2                       | 55.9  | 58.3    | 94.5                   | 95.0  | 94.1    |
| December .....      | 92.1                   | 90.5  | 80.8    | 78.1                               | 77.1  | 55.9    | 57.3                       | 56.1  | 55.0    | 138.2                  | 200.4 | 100.2   |
| <u>1938</u>         |                        |       |         |                                    |       |         |                            |       |         |                        |       |         |
| January .....       | 51.6                   | 52.7  | 95.9    | 47.1                               | 48.3  | 61.1    | 50.8                       | 50.0  | 53.8    | 60.5                   | 62.6  | 99.3    |
| February .....      | 47.7                   | 50.7  | 90.5    | 41.0                               | 43.8  | 55.5    | 48.8                       | 53.0  | 55.3    | 62.6                   | 66.7  | 92.6    |
| March .....         | 63.0                   | 59.5  | 85.0    | 48.7                               | 46.3  | 57.2    | 54.4                       | 53.4  | 55.0    | 70.0                   | 68.3  | 86.5    |
| April .....         | 88.6                   | 90.5  | 87.0    | 55.6                               | 57.0  | 61.3    | 52.4                       | 52.5  | 52.0    | 91.0                   | 88.4  | 95.1    |
| May .....           | 111.3                  | 113.7 | 83.6    | 62.0                               | 63.6  | 55.8    | 52.0                       | 51.8  | 51.8    | 86.6                   | 89.7  | 89.7    |
| June .....          | 106.9                  | 104.9 | 88.2    | 50.9                               | 50.2  | 55.2(f) | 50.0                       | 50.8  | 50.3    | 95.1                   | 95.4  | 92.6    |
| July .....          | 93.2                   | 95.2  | 86.5(f) | 42.1                               | 43.2  | 55.4    | 52.9                       | 51.9  | 50.4(f) | 92.2                   | 89.6  | 89.6    |
| August .....        | 96.2                   | 91.0  | 88.3    | 46.3                               | 44.0  | 57.1    | 56.1                       | 55.1  | 51.9    | 81.8                   | 80.1  | 87.1    |
| September .....     | 97.8                   | 99.9  | 83.3    | 63.1                               | 64.8  | 54.4    | 53.7                       | 54.3  | 51.7    | 88.8                   | 91.2  | 94.0(f) |
| October .....       | 100.7                  | 102.8 | 89.4    | 67.8                               | 69.5  | 55.2    | 52.4                       | 51.6  | 51.6    | 99.0                   | 96.2  | 96.2    |

(a) Prior to 1936 based on sales of 9 chains.

(b) Revised from January, 1935, to allow for changes in seasonal adjustment factors.

(f) Final figures.

Index Numbers of Retail Sales in the Prairie Provinces

(Average for 1936 = 100)

| Year and Month  | Men's Clothing <sup>(x)</sup> | Women's Clothing | Grocery & Meat | Variety  |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
| <u>1935</u>     |                               |                  |                |          |
| January .....   | n                             | n                |                |          |
| February .....  | o                             | o                | 78.1           | 53.5     |
| March .....     | t                             | t                | 77.6           | 64.7     |
| April .....     | a                             | a                | 91.1           | 68.0     |
| May .....       | v                             | v                | 84.2           | 81.8     |
| June .....      | a                             | a                | 90.9           | 80.9     |
| July .....      | i                             | i                | 98.2           | 89.7     |
| August .....    | l                             | l                | 92.0           | 92.6     |
| September ..... | a                             | a                | 107.5          | 89.4     |
| October .....   | b                             | b                | 99.9           | 86.3     |
| November .....  | l                             | l                | 106.6          | 112.6    |
| December .....  | e                             | e                | 101.2          | 102.6    |
|                 |                               |                  | 100.6          | 182.4    |
| <u>1936</u>     |                               |                  |                |          |
| January .....   | 60.0                          | 62.6             | 85.3           | 56.2     |
| February .....  | 52.1                          | 55.4             | 89.6           | 61.6     |
| March .....     | 69.9                          | 83.6             | 88.4           | 69.5     |
| April .....     | 101.3                         | 129.8            | 90.4           | 86.7     |
| May .....       | 101.1                         | 120.5            | 101.3          | 94.9     |
| June .....      | 92.2                          | 101.2            | 101.6          | 97.7     |
| July .....      | 73.8                          | 84.7             | 102.3          | 101.1    |
| August .....    | 70.5                          | 66.3             | 109.5          | 94.3     |
| September ..... | 124.1                         | 100.4            | 115.3          | 103.5    |
| October .....   | 175.5                         | 144.7            | 113.6          | 122.9    |
| November .....  | 129.3                         | 103.9            | 91.6           | 110.7    |
| December .....  | 150.4                         | 146.9            | 110.9          | 200.9    |
| <u>1937</u>     |                               |                  |                |          |
| January .....   | 64.4                          | 60.3             | 90.0           | 60.5     |
| February .....  | 55.3                          | 59.9             | 87.7           | 67.0     |
| March .....     | 88.4                          | 102.4            | 100.3          | 86.0     |
| April .....     | 105.6                         | 121.2            | 111.2          | 89.4     |
| May .....       | 106.3                         | 107.9            | 113.6          | 103.7    |
| June .....      | 98.3                          | 104.3            | 115.0          | 105.8    |
| July .....      | 79.0                          | 83.9             | 128.0          | 107.2    |
| August .....    | 64.4                          | 66.3             | 116.4          | 87.8     |
| September ..... | 106.7                         | 95.3             | 125.7          | 99.2     |
| October .....   | 143.3                         | 133.5            | 124.8          | 115.1    |
| November .....  | 147.0                         | 115.1            | 104.4          | 108.2    |
| December .....  | 150.8                         | 145.7            | 127.5          | 193.5    |
| <u>1938</u>     |                               |                  |                |          |
| January .....   | 69.9                          | 66.5             | 84.3           | 64.6     |
| February .....  | 53.8                          | 59.7             | 91.1           | 66.5     |
| March .....     | 82.0                          | 94.0             | 101.8          | 76.5     |
| April .....     | 107.2                         | 137.2            | 108.1          | 98.9     |
| May .....       | 87.3                          | 97.2             | 102.6          | 92.1     |
| June .....      | 99.7                          | 105.7            | 113.2          | 101.0    |
| July .....      | 77.9                          | 81.1             | 113.8(f)       | 105.4    |
| August .....    | 66.5(f)                       | 69.7(f)          | 104.7          | 88.5     |
| September ..... | 113.8                         | 93.1             | 118.6          | 103.9    |
| October .....   | 177.7                         | 148.6            | (b)            | 122.3(f) |

(b) Not available

(f) Final figures

(x) Includes men's furnishings.

UNADJUSTED INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES--(AVERAGE FOR 1936 = 100)

|                              | CANADA  | Maritime<br>Provinces | Quebec | Ontario | Prairie<br>Provinces | British<br>Columbia |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------|---------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Men's Clothing Stores(x)     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| October, 1936 .....          | 139.5   | 116.1                 | 128.6  | 137.1   | 175.5                | 136.0               |
| October, 1937 .....          | 143.3   | 123.8                 | 135.9  | 150.4   | 143.3                | 131.3               |
| October, 1938 .....          | 121.3   | 103.5                 | 100.4  | 115.3   | 177.7                | (b)                 |
| <u>1938</u>                  |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| July .....                   | 82.3    | 95.1                  | 87.3   | 79.4    | 77.9                 | 83.7                |
| August .....                 | 71.9(f) | 84.6                  | 74.0   | 68.3    | 66.5                 | 85.4                |
| September .....              | 99.9    | 90.4                  | 96.1   | 98.7    | 113.8                | 95.4                |
| October .....                | 121.3   | 103.5                 | 100.4  | 115.3   | 177.7                | (b)                 |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>October, 1938</u> .....   | -15.3   | -16.4                 | -26.1  | -23.3   | +24.0                | (b)                 |
| October, 1937                |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>Jan.-Oct., 1938</u> ..... | - 8.4   | - 5.7                 | -11.5  | -10.6   | + 2.6                | (b)                 |
| Jan.-Oct., 1937              |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| Women's Clothing Stores      |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| October, 1936 .....          | 132.9   | 127.4                 | 130.1  | 134.8   | 144.7                | 117.4               |
| October, 1937 .....          | 137.9   | 137.4                 | 134.7  | 144.6   | 133.5                | 120.9               |
| October, 1938 .....          | 124.1   | 120.9                 | 119.5  | 120.8   | 148.6                | 112.1               |
| <u>1938</u>                  |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| July .....                   | 81.8(f) | 97.4                  | 82.1   | 78.1    | 81.1                 | 87.3                |
| August .....                 | 72.5    | 94.1                  | 69.4   | 66.3    | 69.7                 | 92.8                |
| September .....              | 96.9    | 100.2                 | 92.2   | 97.2    | 93.1                 | 101.0               |
| October .....                | 124.1   | 120.9                 | 119.5  | 120.8   | 148.6                | 112.1               |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>October, 1938</u> .....   | -10.0   | -12.0                 | -11.3  | -16.5   | +11.3                | - 7.3               |
| October, 1937                |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>Jan.-Oct., 1938</u> ..... | - 4.1   | + 2.0                 | - 7.0  | - 6.1   | + 1.9                | - 3.1               |
| Jan.-Oct., 1937              |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| Grocery and Meat Stores      |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| October, 1935 .....          | 97.7    | (a)                   | 99.6   | 94.7    | 106.6                | 96.8                |
| October, 1936 .....          | 108.2   | (a)                   | 105.1  | 108.8   | 113.6                | 104.5               |
| October, 1937 .....          | 117.6   | (a)                   | 111.6  | 117.8   | 124.8                | 120.6               |
| October, 1938 .....          | 117.0   | (a)                   | 118.6  | 116.4   | (b)                  | (b)                 |
| <u>1938</u>                  |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| July .....                   | 111.1   | (a)                   | 105.3  | 112.8   | 113.8                | 106.5               |
| August .....                 | 100.2   | (a)                   | 94.4   | 100.3   | 104.7                | 103.7               |
| September .....              | 110.9   | (a)                   | 109.4  | 111.1   | 118.6                | 101.0               |
| October .....                | 117.0   | (a)                   | 118.6  | 116.4   | (b)                  | (b)                 |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>October, 1938</u> .....   | - 0.5   | (a)                   | + 6.3  | - 1.2   | (b)                  | (b)                 |
| October, 1937                |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>Jan.-Oct., 1938</u> ..... | + 2.3   | (a)                   | + 6.0  | + 4.0   | (b)                  | (b)                 |
| Jan.-Oct., 1937              |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| Variety Stores               |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| October, 1935 .....          | 100.4   | 98.8                  | 100.7  | 99.8    | 112.6                | 86.6                |
| October, 1936 .....          | 111.9   | 113.8                 | 109.9  | 111.5   | 122.9                | 102.3               |
| October, 1937 .....          | 113.9   | 119.7                 | 115.6  | 113.7   | 115.1                | 105.6               |
| October, 1938 .....          | 110.0   | 111.8                 | 118.9  | 103.9   | 122.3                | 107.9               |
| <u>1938</u>                  |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| July .....                   | 102.5   | 107.3                 | 107.9  | 98.8    | 105.4                | 105.6               |
| August .....                 | 90.9    | 100.8                 | 97.2   | 85.5    | 88.5                 | 105.7               |
| September .....              | 98.7(f) | 100.7                 | 104.2  | 94.5    | 103.9                | 106.1               |
| October .....                | 110.0   | 111.8                 | 118.9  | 103.9   | 122.3                | 107.9               |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>October, 1938</u> .....   | - 3.4   | - 6.6                 | + 2.9  | - 8.6   | + 6.3                | + 2.2               |
| October, 1937                |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| %Change,                     |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |
| <u>Jan.-Oct., 1938</u> ..... | - 4.1   | - 5.7                 | - 1.7  | - 6.5   | - 0.2                | + 1.5               |
| Jan.-Oct., 1937              |         |                       |        |         |                      |                     |

(a) Figures for the Maritime Provinces are withheld to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(b) Not available.

(f) Final figures.

(x) Includes men's furnishings.

UNADJUSTED INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES-(AVERAGE FOR 1936 = 100)

| Year and Month                     | CANADA   | Maritime Provinces | Quebec | Ontario | Prairie Provinces | British Columbia |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| Department Stores                  |          |                    |        |         |                   |                  |
| October, 1935 .....                | 116.3    | 111.5              | 104.2  | 107.8   | 138.4             | 112.5            |
| October, 1936 .....                | 126.1    | 116.5              | 118.0  | 118.0   | 146.8             | 121.0            |
| October, 1937 .....                | 125.2    | 123.0              | 124.1  | 123.7   | 130.5             | 121.2            |
| October, 1938 .....                | 117.7    | 103.0              | 116.3  | 108.9   | 134.2             | 117.1            |
| <u>1938</u>                        |          |                    |        |         |                   |                  |
| July .....                         | 75.4     | 81.9               | 73.5   | 71.3    | 73.5              | 90.4             |
| August .....                       | 83.1     | 83.5               | 87.5   | 79.1    | 78.2              | 99.1             |
| September .....                    | 104.4(f) | 92.1               | 113.2  | 107.5   | 97.8              | 104.0            |
| October .....                      | 117.7    | 103.0              | 116.3  | 108.9   | 134.2             | 117.1            |
| % Change,<br>October, 1938 .....   | - 6.0    | -16.3              | - 6.3  | -12.0   | + 2.8             | - 3.4            |
| % Change,<br>October, 1937 .....   |          |                    |        |         |                   |                  |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1938 ..... | - 4.2    | - 9.6              | - 1.3  | - 4.8   | - 4.0             | - 4.1            |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1937 ..... |          |                    |        |         |                   |                  |

|                                    |          |       |       |       |       |       |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Hardware Stores                    |          |       |       |       |       |       |
| October, 1936 .....                | 124.2    | 115.6 | 109.4 | 124.1 | 135.9 | 126.2 |
| October, 1937 .....                | 127.0    | 153.6 | 131.2 | 118.5 | 124.5 | 140.2 |
| October, 1938 .....                | 132.2    | 146.9 | 146.5 | 116.3 | 137.1 | 129.0 |
| <u>1938</u>                        |          |       |       |       |       |       |
| May .....                          | 146.2    | 151.0 | 179.5 | 152.8 | 119.0 | 123.9 |
| June .....                         | 140.3    | 156.1 | 161.4 | 145.7 | 120.4 | 117.6 |
| July .....                         | 122.4(f) | 138.3 | 148.5 | 123.9 | 101.8 | 105.7 |
| August .....                       | 126.3    | 131.6 | 161.7 | 112.1 | 120.2 | 109.6 |
| September .....                    | 128.5    | 133.2 | 146.6 | 119.4 | 128.0 | 118.3 |
| October .....                      | 132.2    | 146.9 | 146.5 | 116.3 | 137.1 | 129.0 |
| % Change,<br>October, 1938 .....   | + 4.1    | - 4.4 | +11.7 | - 1.9 | +10.1 | - 8.0 |
| % Change,<br>October, 1937 .....   |          |       |       |       |       |       |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1938 ..... | + 1.3    | + 0.2 | + 5.5 | + 2.1 | (a)   | -11.7 |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1937 ..... |          |       |       |       |       |       |

|                                    |         |       |       |       |       |       |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Music and Radio Stores             |         |       |       |       |       |       |
| October, 1936 .....                | 138.5   | 158.1 | 131.8 | 133.0 | 159.1 | 143.8 |
| October, 1937 .....                | 135.1   | 144.5 | 154.0 | 126.9 | 144.4 | 110.0 |
| October, 1938 .....                | 125.0   | 132.1 | 128.8 | 119.9 | 143.6 | 120.0 |
| <u>1938</u>                        |         |       |       |       |       |       |
| July .....                         | 77.7    | 64.0  | 74.2  | 79.1  | 80.5  | 81.5  |
| August .....                       | 85.4(f) | 57.2  | 81.6  | 88.5  | 92.9  | 78.9  |
| September .....                    | 116.5   | 80.2  | 124.2 | 117.4 | 115.6 | 104.3 |
| October .....                      | 125.0   | 132.1 | 128.8 | 119.9 | 143.6 | 120.0 |
| % Change,<br>October, 1938 .....   | - 7.4   | - 8.6 | -16.4 | - 5.5 | - 0.6 | + 9.1 |
| % Change,<br>October, 1937 .....   |         |       |       |       |       |       |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1938 ..... | - 7.2   | -10.6 | -10.8 | - 6.4 | - 3.2 | - 4.5 |
| % Change,<br>Jan.-Oct., 1937 ..... |         |       |       |       |       |       |

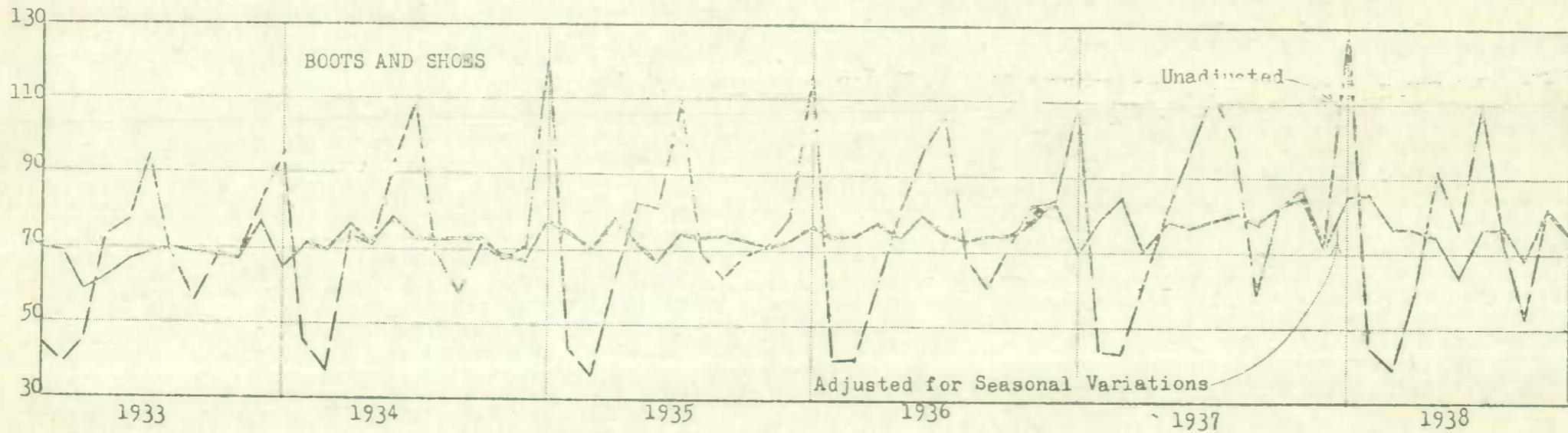
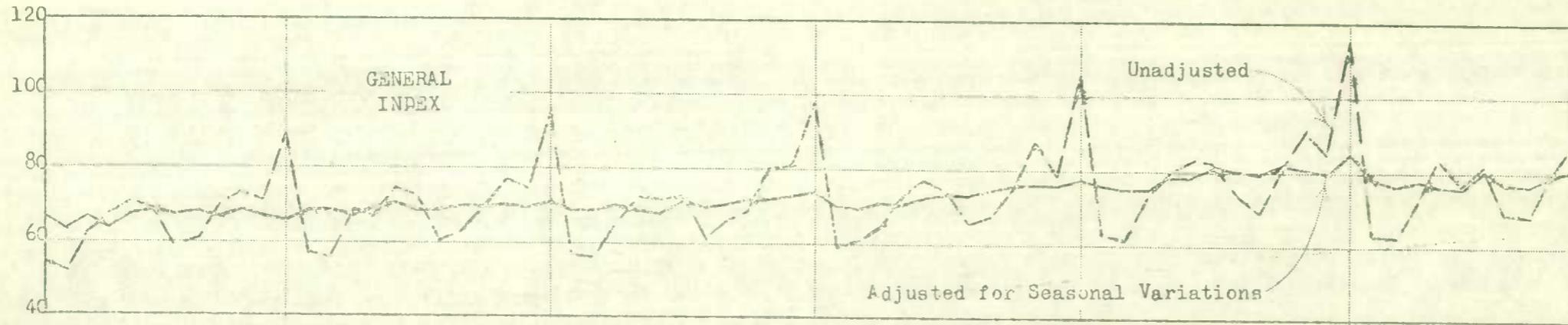
(a) Unchanged.  
(f) Final figures.

DEPARTMENTAL STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS  
OCTOBER, 1937, AND OCTOBER, 1938

(Based on sales of 19 firms)

|   | October<br>1937 | October<br>1938 | % Change,<br>1938/37 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| TOTAL SALES, ALL DEPARTMENTS .....                        | 22,791,517      | 21,130,697      | - 7.3                |
| 1. Women's dresses, coats and suits .....                 | 2,534,992       | 2,264,435       | - 10.7               |
| 2. Girls' and infants' wear .....                         | 982,238         | 884,337         | - 10.0               |
| 3. Hosiery and gloves .....                               | 1,085,213       | 1,007,099       | - 7.2                |
| 4. Lingerie and corsets .....                             | 986,686         | 911,268         | - 7.6                |
| 5. Millinery .....  | 365,768         | 345,399         | - 5.6                |
| 6. Women's and children's apparel -<br>(Total, 1-5) ..... | 5,954,897       | 5,412,538       | - 9.1                |
| 7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings ...           | 3,303,747       | 2,849,805       | - 13.7               |
| 8. Drugs and toilet articles and preparations .           | 525,632         | 516,183         | - 1.8                |
| 9. Piece goods .....                                      | 1,766,209       | 1,618,754       | - 8.3                |
| 10. Smallwares .....                                      | 725,674         | 719,002         | - 0.9                |
| 11. Food and kindred products .....                       | 1,873,949       | 1,784,502       | - 4.8                |
| 12. Furniture (including mattresses, springs) ...         | 1,077,098       | 1,097,635       | + 1.9                |
| 13. Home furnishings .....                                | 1,650,168       | 1,484,879       | - 10.0               |
| 14. Household appliances and electrical supplies.         | 601,570         | 619,492         | + 3.0                |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils .....                   | 647,239         | 605,317         | - 6.5                |
| 16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies ....         | 441,765         | 399,205         | - 9.6                |
| 17. Shoes and other footwear .....                        | 1,704,113       | 1,601,655       | - 6.0                |
| 18. Stationery, books and magazines .....                 | 301,800         | 279,697         | - 7.3                |
| 19. All other departments, total .....                    | 2,217,656       | 2,142,033       | - 3.4                |

INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL SALES (Average for 1930 = 100)



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