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WHOLESALE TRADE
AUGUST 1950

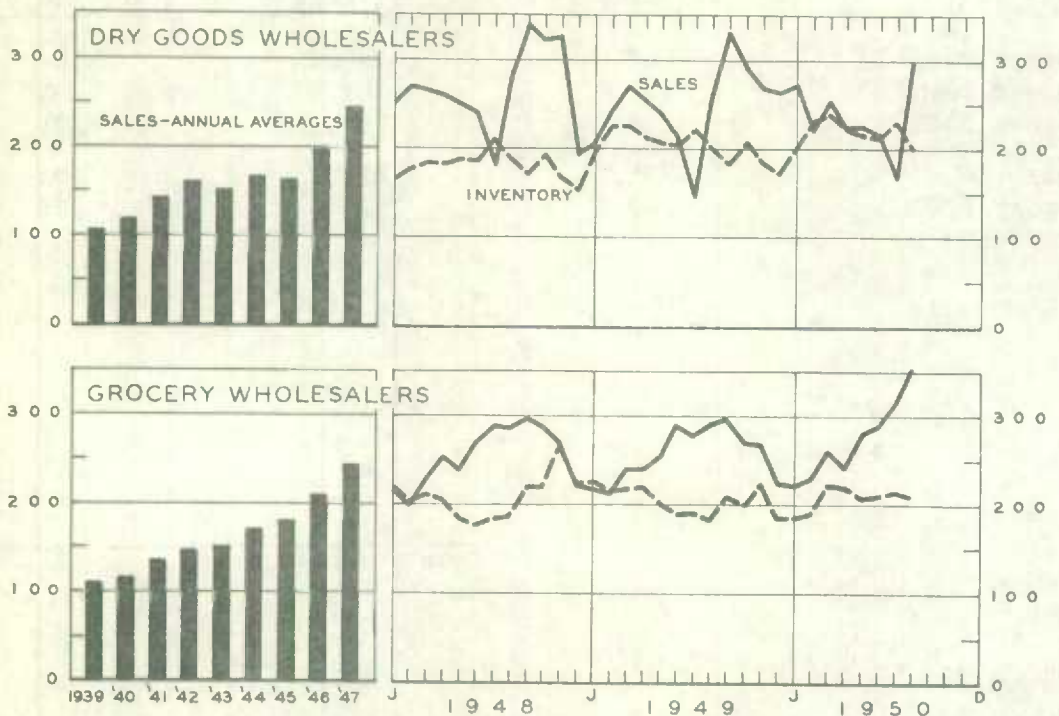
Dollar volume of wholesale sales in Canada in August 1950 was 17% higher than in August 1949 and 18% in excess of the July 1950 volume. Cumulative sales for the first eight months of 1950 were 4% above sales in the comparable period of 1949. The general unadjusted index of wholesale sales for the nine lines of trade covered by this survey (on the base, average for 1935-1939=100) stood at 369.5 for August 1950, 317.2 for August 1949, and 314.1 for July 1950.

Quebec's 22% increase in August sales was the largest among regional gains. Sales in Ontario, British Columbia and the Prairie Provinces were 17%, 16%, and 15% respectively above August 1949. The Maritime Provinces recorded an increase of 12%.

(continued on page 2)

The following charts show the trend in sales and inventories, annually from 1939 and monthly from January 1948, for dry goods and grocery wholesalers. These charts are based on index numbers and do not portray the dollarwise relationship between sales and stocks.

INDEXES OF SALES AND INVENTORIES
OF DRY GOODS AND GROCERY WHOLESALERS
(1935-1939=100)



Sales Trends in Individual Trades

Increases in August were greater than those for the first eight months of the year in all except the fruits and vegetables trade. Automotive and hardware wholesalers recorded the largest increases over August 1949 (38% and 27% respectively), while grocery wholesalers' sales were up 21%; dry goods, 15%; and tobacco and confectionery, 12%. Sales of clothing wholesalers were 8% above those for August 1949, while drugs and footwear wholesalers' sales increased 4% and 3% respectively.

A decrease of 5% was reported by fruit and vegetable dealers.

Stocks

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine trades were valued 8% higher at August 31, 1950 than on the corresponding date in 1949, and 4% lower than at the end of July 1950. Tobacco and confectionery and grocery wholesalers' inventories registered the largest increases at 17% and 15% respectively, while clothing and fruit and vegetable wholesalers reported inventories valued 3% and 4% lower than at August 31, 1949.

Grocery and Dry Goods Inventories

Month and Year	Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939 = 100)		Stocks/Sales Ratios
	Dry Goods Wholesalers	Grocery Wholesalers	Grocery Wholesalers
August 1947	155.8	172.9	1.04
August 1948	185.6	187.4	.92
August 1949	198.4	183.1	.91
July 1950	231.2	214.0	.91
August 1950	198.6	210.2	.84

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

Trade and Region	Percentage Change				
	SALES				INVENTORY
	(1)	(2)	August	Jan.-to-	August 1950
	July 1950 July 1949	August 1950 August 1949	1950 July 1950	August 1950 Jan.-to- August 1949	August 1950 August 1949
Automotive Equipment	+24.5	+37.6	+30.6	+5.8	+ 2.9
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+21.2	+35.9	+27.7	+ 6.3	
Ontario	+25.8	+29.3	+ 4.9	+ 9.0	
Western Provinces	+24.5	+45.7	+55.1	+ 2.9	
Drugs	- 0.2	+ 3.8	+14.0	+0.3	+10.5
Maritimes, Que., and Ont..	- 0.6	+ 2.6	+15.9	+ 0.7	
Western Provinces	+ 0.6	+ 6.5	+ 8.9	- 0.5	
Clothing	+13.7	+ 7.7	+65.2	-5.1	- 3.1
Quebec	+13.1	+28.7			
Ont. & Western Provinces	+14.1	- 4.1			
Footwear	- 3.4	+ 2.6	+157.5	-4.9	+ 8.9
Maritimes and Quebec ...	+ 1.2	- 2.1			
Ont. & Western Provinces	- 6.8	+ 6.4			
Dry Goods	+12.8	+15.1	+81.9	-3.1	+ 0.1
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+13.5	+18.9	+97.3	- 5.5	
Ontario	+15.5	+10.7	+82.2	- 2.2	
Western Provinces	+ 8.5	+16.2	+54.8	- 0.2	
Fruits and Vegetables ...	+ 1.0	- 5.4	- 5.6	+5.3	- 4.3
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+ 6.3	+ 7.1	-18.9	+ 7.0	
Ontario	- 3.6	+ 6.4	- 8.7	+ 7.3	
Western Provinces	+ 2.5	-15.4	+ 1.3	+ 4.5	
Groceries	+13.1	+21.4	+12.8	+8.2	+14.8
Maritimes	+ 7.0	+14.7	+10.2	+ 5.9	
Quebec	+17.3	+23.4	+ 9.4	+13.1	
Ontario	+11.1	+24.6	+13.3	+ 6.5	
Prairies	+14.6	+26.1	+13.6	+10.9	
British Columbia	+17.6	+10.6	+12.4	+ 5.8	
Hardware	+13.9	+27.0	+19.7	+2.8	+ 6.1
Maritimes	+14.9	+12.4	+14.6	+ 3.9	
Quebec	+23.4	+35.6	+21.1	+ 3.4	
Ontario	+16.4	+20.3	+ 7.0	+ 4.7	
Western Provinces	+ 8.0	+26.6	+21.3	+ 1.0	
Tobacco and Confectionery.	+ 4.0	+11.9	+ 8.7	+3.7	+17.1
Maritimes and Quebec ...	+ 4.3	+ 5.2	+ 3.5	+ 3.8	
Ontario	+ 3.7	+ 9.9	+12.8	+ 4.0	
Western Provinces	+ 4.2	+16.8	+11.7	+ 3.3	
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+ 6.6	+12.4	+10.9	+ 4.0	
Quebec	+14.6	+21.6	+19.2	+ 4.4	
Ontario	+ 8.7	+16.5	+15.3	+ 4.4	
Prairies	+ 9.5	+14.9	+19.9	+ 4.7	
British Columbia	+10.1	+16.1	+19.0	+ 3.7	
CANADA	+10.0	+16.5	+17.6	+4.4	+ 7.5

(1) Revised. (2) Preliminary. NOTE: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.



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MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA
 (Average, 1935 - 1939 = 100)

Year and Month	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August 1947	272.2	276.1	236.6	266.4	287.7	306.8	379.0	450.4	332.1	382.7
August 1948	296.7	304.8	249.4	292.5	312.7	346.1	376.0	395.9	321.5	408.0
August 1949	317.2	313.9	258.6	310.6	347.7	368.6	420.4	412.1	389.0	438.2
July 1950	314.1	318.2	263.8	313.9	333.2	359.5	443.0	438.4	479.7	411.7
August 1950	369.5	352.8	314.5	361.8	399.5	427.9	578.5	560.0	503.0	638.5

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA		CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August 1947	241.9	229.0	276.1	262.7		334.8	237.7	198.0	276.2	256.2
August 1948	279.6	268.6	309.0	264.5		363.6	284.5	243.7	325.4	300.3
August 1949	319.3	307.8	350.7	270.3		352.3	260.9	218.1	306.2	276.0
July 1950	290.8	272.4	343.0	176.2		140.4	165.1	131.4	186.1	207.2
August 1950	321.4	315.8	373.5	291.1		361.5	300.3	259.3	339.0	320.7

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August 1947	245.6	271.5	207.5	246.0	241.9	277.7	304.0	221.6	278.2	379.2
August 1948	285.4	313.9	227.4	290.5	281.3	332.7	249.0	167.8	230.1	318.9
August 1949	291.4	318.6	229.9	292.0	281.6	370.0	303.5	192.6	253.1	424.1
July 1950	313.6	331.7	259.4	321.2	312.7	364.2	307.4	254.4	295.1	354.3
August 1950	353.8	365.4	283.7	363.8	355.1	409.2	287.1	206.3	269.3	358.8

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August 1947	297.8	281.4	296.8	245.9	313.4	309.0	308.6	321.4	287.7
August 1948	339.5	313.5	319.1	293.9	362.3	348.2	336.4	355.5	336.0
August 1949	377.9	343.9	348.5	340.3	400.0	380.9	372.4	384.7	369.9
July 1950	400.9	367.3	390.3	382.7	417.6	392.2	378.7	374.7	386.7
August 1950	479.9	420.9	472.6	409.4	506.4	426.2	391.8	422.8	432.0