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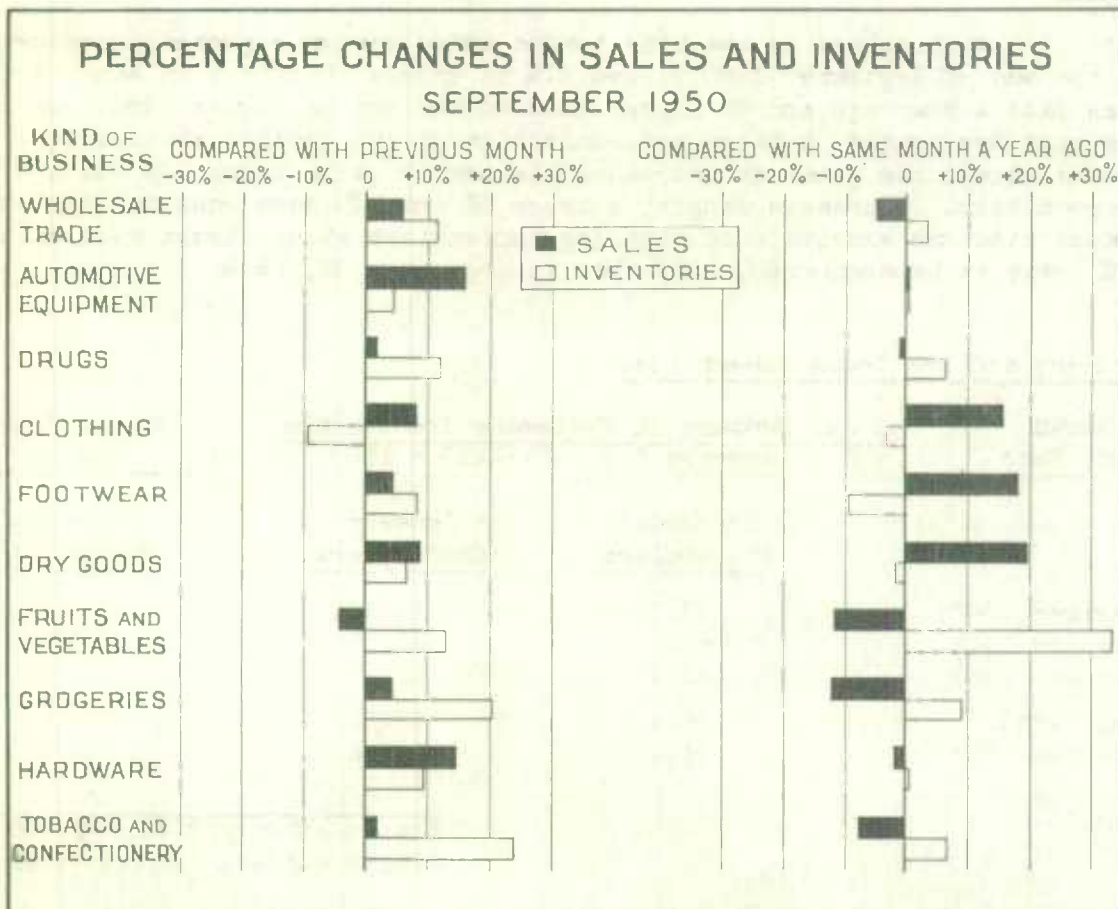
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WHOLESALE TRADE

SEPTEMBER 1950

Wholesalers' sales in September 1950 were 6% higher in dollar volume than in September a year ago but registered a drop of 5% from August 1950. Cumulative sales for the first nine months of the current year exceeded the dollar volume of the corresponding period of 1949 by 5%. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939 = 100) stood at 352.1 for September 1950, 332.2 for September 1949, and 368.9 for August 1950.

Sales of Quebec wholesalers advanced 12% in September 1950 compared with September a year ago, while Ontario and British Columbia wholesalers registered gains of 8% and 7%. Smaller increases of 4% and 1% were recorded by wholesalers in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces respectively.



Sales Trends in Individual Trades

September was the third successive month in which sales increases of automotive equipment and hardware wholesalers have exceeded those of all other trades. Gains in these trades amounted to 16% and 15% in September, considerably above the year-to-date increases of 7% for automotive equipment and 4% for hardware.

The dry goods and apparel trades also recorded advances in dollar sales over September last year, continuing the trend which has been evident for the past three months and reflecting greater activity in the retail apparel field. Increases have not been large enough, however, to make up for declines in the early part of the year. Percentage changes in sales for these trades for September and for January to September (in brackets) compared with corresponding months last year were as follows: dry goods, 9% (-1%); clothing, 8% (-4%); footwear, 4% (-3%).

Wholesale grocers' sales in September were 4% above September last year, while drugs and tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported sales up 2%.

Fruit and vegetable dealers' sales were 4% lower than in September 1949, but results were not consistent for various regions of the country. A decrease of 14% in the Western Provinces more than offset gains in the East which amounted to 13% in the Maritimes and Quebec combined and 9% in Ontario.

Stocks

Wholesalers in the nine trades under review reported inventories at the end of September 1950 valued 12% in excess of stocks on hand at the same date a year ago and 3% higher than at the end of August 1950. As in the past two months, tobacco and confectionery and grocery wholesalers' stocks showed the greatest increases, September gains being 24% and 20% respectively. Increases ranging between 5% and 13% were recorded for other trades with the exception of clothing wholesalers whose stocks were valued 10% lower at September 30, 1950 than at September 30, 1949.

Grocery and Dry Goods Inventories

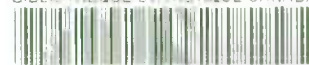
<u>Month and Year</u>	<u>Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories</u> (Average for 1935-1939 = 100)		<u>Stocks/Sales Ratios</u>
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
September 1947	148.1	193.9	.89
September 1948	169.6	219.1	.88
September 1949	182.7	210.8	.86
August 1950	198.4	209.8	.84
September 1950	194.8	253.6	.98

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

Trade and Region	Percentage Change				INVENTORY Sept. 1950 Sept. 1949
	SALES		INVENTORY		
	(1) August 1950 August 1949	(2) September 1950 September 1949	September 1950 August 1950	Jan. - to - Sept. 1950 Jan. - to - Sept. 1949	
Automotive Equipment	+36.8	+16.2	+ 0.5	+ 7.2	+ 4.7
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+35.9	+26.7	- 1.0	+ 8.9	
Ontario	+27.7	+ 6.8	+ 5.0	+ 8.5	
Western Provinces	+45.7	+21.5	- 3.7	+ 5.5	
Drugs	+ 3.6	+ 1.8	- 0.8	+ 0.5	+12.2
Maritimes, Que., and Ont.	+ 2.5	+ 0.8	+ 5.6	+ 0.7	
Western Provinces	+ 6.2	+ 4.3	-15.0	(x)	
Clothing	+ 3.6	+ 8.3	+16.0	- 3.8	- 9.7
Quebec	+28.7	+ 2.2			
Ont. & Western Provinces.	- 8.8	+12.2			
Footwear	+ 2.6	+ 4.4	+18.0	- 3.3	+ 8.6
Maritimes and Quebec ..	- 2.1	+12.7			
Ont. & Western Provinces	+ 6.4	- 2.2			
Dry Goods	+15.4	+ 8.9	+19.8	- 1.2	+ 6.6
Maritimes and Quebec ...	+18.8	+ 8.2	+30.8	- 3.4	
Ontario	+10.7	+17.0	+16.3	+ 0.6	
Western Provinces	+17.2	- 0.7	+ 6.1	- 0.1	
Fruits and Vegetables	- 5.5	- 4.0	-11.7	+ 4.3	+13.2
Maritimes and Quebec ...	+ 6.5	+12.5	-18.9	+ 7.3	
Ontario	+ 5.6	+ 9.0	- 6.7	+ 7.4	
Western Provinces	-15.4	-14.3	- 7.4	+ 1.8	
Groceries	+21.2	+ 4.4	-12.1	+ 7.7	+20.3
Maritimes	+14.3	+ 3.2	-11.4	+ 5.5	
Quebec	+23.4	+ 9.4	- 2.8	+12.6	
Ontario	+23.6	+ 2.1	-15.4	+ 5.8	
Prairies	+26.5	+ 4.4	-13.2	+10.0	
British Columbia	+10.6	+ 6.0	- 7.7	+ 5.8	
Hardware	+27.0	+14.5	- 1.6	+ 4.1	+ 9.5
Maritimes	+22.4	+13.6	+11.3	+ 5.3	
Quebec	+35.6	+20.2	+ 9.1	+ 5.7	
Ontario	+20.3	+18.1	+28.9	+ 6.4	
Western Provinces	+26.6	+ 9.7	-12.5	+ 2.0	
Tobacco and Confectionery.	+11.6	+ 1.7	- 7.8	+ 3.4	+23.5
Maritimes and Quebec ...	+ 5.2	+ 0.1	+ 5.9	+ 3.4	
Ontario	+ 9.4	+ 4.9	- 8.1	+ 4.0	
Western Provinces	+16.6	- 0.6	-14.1	+ 2.8	
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+12.4	+ 3.7	- 3.0	+ 4.0	
Quebec	+21.2	+11.8	+ 7.3	+ 5.3	
Ontario	+15.6	+ 7.6	- 1.4	+ 4.7	
Prairies	+15.2	+ 0.9	- 9.4	+ 4.2	
British Columbia	+16.0	+ 6.7	-14.7	+ 4.0	
CANADA	+16.3	+ 6.0	- 4.6	+ 4.6	+11.7

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



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
September 1947	301.7	316.4	292.5	296.6	301.8	330.6	481.8	491.9	460.9	475.7
September 1948	327.0	326.5	306.8	320.9	342.8	350.8	497.2	486.5	476.1	499.0
September 1949	332.2	330.1	300.7	328.9	359.6	341.7	497.2	437.4	488.5	506.0
August 1950 ..	368.9	352.8	313.4	359.1	400.6	427.6	575.1	560.0	496.8	638.5
September 1950	352.1	342.3	336.2	353.9	362.8	364.6	577.7	554.2	521.7	614.8

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA		CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September 1947	273.9	285.2	246.7	261.7		378.1	302.6	297.4	313.5	288.7
September 1948	294.4	303.5	273.3	311.9		411.4	338.0	337.5	331.7	338.6
September 1949	322.4	330.5	303.4	300.0		408.5	331.2	313.2	337.0	345.7
August 1950 ..	330.8	315.5	372.4	280.0		361.5	301.1	259.1	339.0	323.5
September 1950	328.2	333.1	316.4	324.9		426.5	360.7	338.9	394.3	343.3

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September 1947	275.2	301.0	265.4	265.2	260.5	333.8	278.6	209.8	259.8	356.4
September 1948	296.1	305.5	262.2	293.6	296.2	354.2	272.7	169.1	239.8	386.3
September 1949	297.3	312.8	252.0	299.2	296.2	356.3	263.7	147.8	228.8	387.5
August 1950 ..	353.2	364.2	283.7	360.9	356.2	409.2	286.8	205.1	267.3	358.8
September 1950	310.4	322.8	275.7	305.5	309.2	377.7	253.2	166.3	249.4	332.1

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September 1947	339.6	371.2	346.4	347.7	342.1	322.7	341.8	316.9	305.0
September 1948	383.1	420.9	395.2	423.2	369.1	375.0	397.9	357.1	365.7
September 1949	412.2	412.5	428.8	446.9	403.8	385.5	414.6	368.5	372.6
August 1950 ..	479.9	420.9	472.6	409.4	506.4	425.1	391.8	420.9	431.3
September 1950	472.0	468.6	515.4	527.8	443.0	392.1	415.0	386.6	370.4