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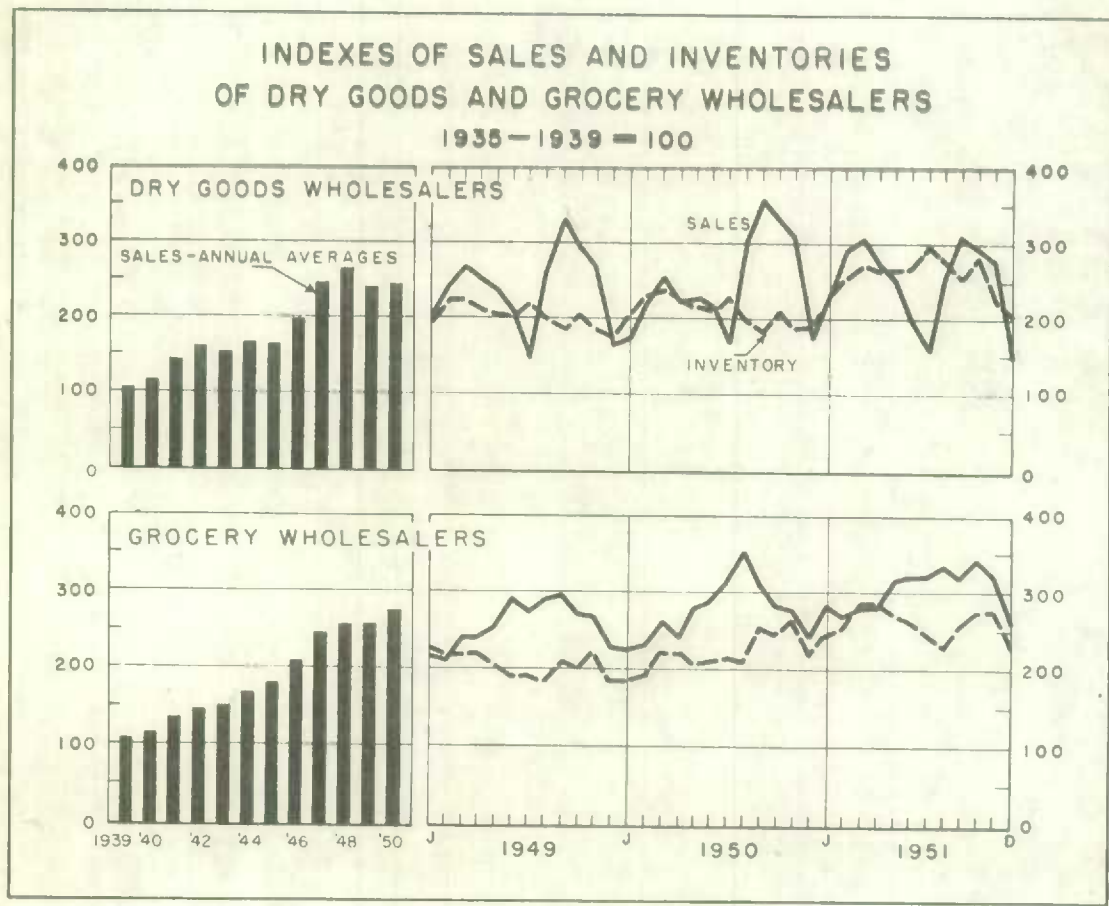


WHOLESALE TRADE

DECEMBER, 1951

Wholesale sales in December 1951 were 4% higher than in December 1950, with all regions except Quebec contributing to the increase. The largest provincial percentage gain over December last year was recorded in British Columbia where sales rose 10%. Sales in the twelve months of 1951 were 10% above the 1950 volume.

The results shown in this report are based on returns from 400 wholesalers distributed over nine trades. They reflect trends in dollar volume of business and are not adjusted for changes in wholesale prices.



The unadjusted index for the total of the nine trades (on the base of 1935-1939=100) stood at 294.8 for December 1951 compared with 282.4 for December a year ago and 353.4 for November 1951.

Fruit and vegetable wholesalers took the lead in sales increases in December 1951 with a gain of 22%. In the other eight trades, four showed increases in volume of sales and four registered declines; auto parts and equipment sales were 11% higher and dry goods, 15% lower than in the same period last year.

Year-end stocks held by wholesalers in the nine trades covered by this survey were valued 6% higher than stocks at the end of 1950, the December increase being the lowest month-end increase in value of inventories of any month during 1951. Wholesalers of **fruits and vegetables** with an increase of 49% recorded the greatest gain among the nine trades. An increase of 20% was reported by auto parts and equipment wholesalers; stocks of hardware, dry goods, clothing and groceries were up 10%, 8%, 7%, and 3% respectively over December 1950. Decreases in dollar volume of inventory were recorded by wholesalers of footwear, tobacco and confectionery, and drugs, 23%, 9% and 4% respectively.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' 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>
December 1948	162.8	223.1	1.43
December 1949	170.8	186.3	1.24
December 1950	189.9	220.6	1.33
November 1951	223.0	278.5	1.10
December 1951	204.1	228.1	1.34

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade(1)

(Preliminary)

Trade and Region	SALES		INVENTORY
	December 1951 December 1950	Jan.-Dec. 1951 Jan.-Dec. 1950	December 31, 1951 December 31, 1950
<u>WHOLESALE TRADE(1), CANADA</u>	+ 4.4	+ 10.2	+ 6.3
Maritimes	+ 5.6	+ 8.1	
Quebec	- 2.4	+ 8.0	
Ontario	+ 2.5	+ 10.6	
Prairies	+ 8.4	+ 9.5	
British Columbia	+ 10.4	+ 15.1	
<u>Auto Parts and Equipment</u>	+ 11.2	+ 18.6	+ 20.3
Maritimes and Quebec	- 1.9	+ 18.1	
Ontario	+ 10.2	+ 19.8	
Western Provinces	+ 17.0	+ 18.5	
<u>Drugs</u>	- 0.4	+ 11.6	- 3.6
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario .	+ 0.8	+ 11.1	
Western Provinces	- 3.2	+ 13.0	
<u>Clothing</u>	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	+ 7.0
Quebec	+ 0.9		
Ontario and Western Provinces .	- 0.5		
<u>Footwear</u>	- 4.4	+ 16.2	- 22.5
Maritimes and Quebec	- 15.9		
Ontario and Western Provinces .	+ 10.6		
<u>Dry Goods</u>	- 15.3	+ 1.4	+ 7.5
Maritimes and Quebec	- 10.9	+ 2.5	
Ontario	- 21.0	- 1.3	
Western Provinces	- 12.7	+ 4.2	
<u>Fruits and Vegetables</u>	+ 21.9	+ 7.2	+ 48.9
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 12.0	+ 5.5	
Ontario	+ 17.9	+ 8.4	
Western Provinces	+ 29.8	+ 7.1	
<u>Groceries</u>	+ 7.3	+ 10.9	+ 3.4
Maritimes	+ 11.0	+ 7.9	
Quebec	+ 4.1	+ 5.7	
Ontario	+ 2.4	+ 9.1	
Prairies	+ 7.2	+ 11.8	
British Columbia	+ 16.6	+ 20.5	
<u>Hardware</u>	- 7.9	+ 12.6	+ 10.0
Maritimes	- 13.3	+ 6.6	
Quebec	- 12.5	+ 13.2	
Ontario	- 7.0	+ 16.0	
Western Provinces	- 5.1	+ 11.0	
<u>Tobacco and Confectionery</u>	+ 10.6	+ 8.0	- 8.8
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 2.4	+ 4.4	
Ontario	+ 10.3	+ 13.0	
Western Provinces	+ 14.7	+ 4.5	

(1) Composite of Nine Trades.

NOTE: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.



MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA

(Average 1935-39=100)

Month and Year	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTO PARTS AND EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1948	259.9	264.6	247.9	276.7	231.9	292.8	319.4	399.9	371.5	273.9
December 1949	261.5	257.2	236.0	282.5	240.7	293.1	328.0	347.9	364.8	311.4
December 1950	282.4	265.2	260.5	301.7	258.8	327.7	374.6	444.3	435.6	328.5
November 1951	353.4	335.3	322.2	355.6	358.4	420.8	527.9	497.0	529.1	534.1
December 1951	294.8	280.1	254.2	309.2	280.5	361.8	440.8	435.9	480.0	384.3
	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1948	261.6	267.2	246.1	234.3	249.9	192.8	159.4	227.0	201.5	
December 1949	301.1	285.4	344.3	204.8	222.2	163.3	129.0	199.3	173.3	
December 1950	322.8	307.1	366.7	201.3	244.6	173.6	150.9	191.7	184.6	
November 1951	389.0	379.0	417.4	309.8	382.6	275.4	243.2	314.8	306.9	
December 1951	321.5	309.6	355.0	201.7	233.8	147.0	134.5	151.4	161.2	
	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1948	219.8	261.8	207.1	241.7	180.2	246.0	258.1	206.4	250.0	298.6
December 1949	224.0	260.5	208.1	249.9	185.1	248.7	268.7	184.1	263.8	332.6
December 1950	242.4	252.4	211.4	267.4	208.2	298.9	267.9	196.1	265.1	320.0
November 1951	321.0	336.9	261.6	319.5	314.8	429.5	289.6	223.2	285.3	354.5
December 1951	260.1	280.2	220.1	273.8	223.2	348.5	326.6	219.6	312.6	415.4
	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY				
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
December 1948	356.2	297.1	349.5	406.9	337.5	371.0	434.5	359.7	338.0	
December 1949	333.8	262.9	330.6	400.4	307.8	399.6	459.7	400.3	355.2	
December 1950	411.9	336.5	430.8	498.1	365.7	384.8	445.0	387.9	338.9	
November 1951	471.7	370.1	502.1	507.7	448.6	414.8	400.3	427.0	405.4	
December 1951	379.4	291.7	377.0	463.2	347.0	425.6	455.7	427.9	388.7	