

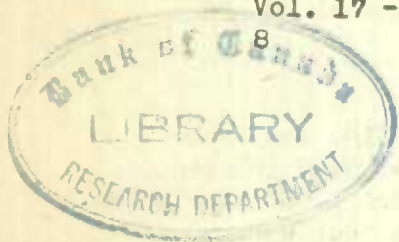


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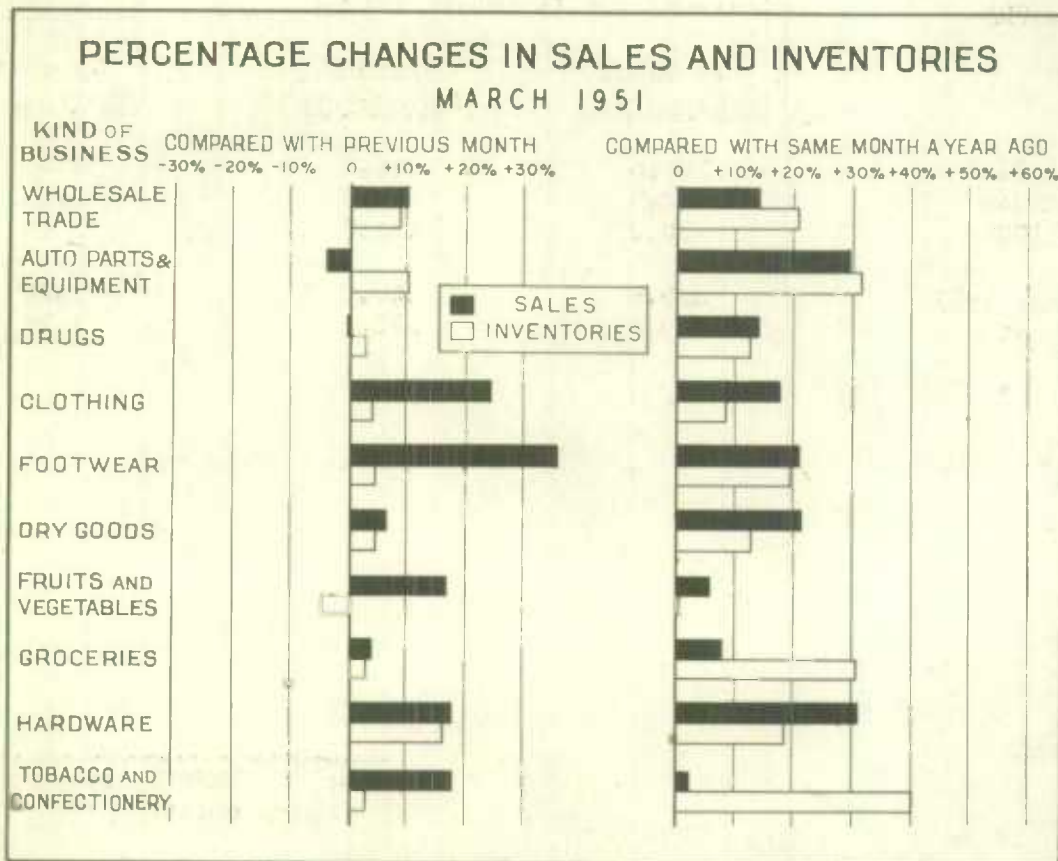
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WHOLESALE TRADE

MARCH 1951

Wholesale sales in March 1951 were 14% higher than in the same month of 1950, based on the results for nine lines of trade. This increase was more moderate than those reported for the first two months of the year. In the first quarter, sales this year were 23% ahead of 1950 volume for the same three months.



The March index of dollar sales was 334.5 (on the base, average for 1935-1939=100), as compared with indexes of 293.4 for March 1950 and 303.1 for February 1951.

Results quoted throughout this report are based on dollar sales and have not been adjusted for changes in wholesale prices.

Inventories of merchandise for the nine trades were 21% higher on March 31 this year compared with the same date in 1950.

The largest sales increases were those for hardware (31%) and automotive wholesalers (30%). Inventory gains for these two trades were 18% and 31% respectively. Among the more prominent sales increases were those for footwear, dry goods and clothing wholesalers, all of which had increases in excess of the average.

Tobacco wholesalers reported the value of their inventories to be 41% greater on March 31 this year than on the same date in 1950, although having only a 2% sales increase in March.

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>
March 1948	183.5	212.3	1.25
March 1949	226.3	217.6	1.26
March 1950	239.2	221.5	1.09
February 1951	255.8	253.0	1.26
March 1951	269.6	289.1	1.26

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade (1)

(Preliminary)

Trade and Region	SALES		INVENTORY
	<u>March 1951</u> March 1950	<u>Jan.-March 1951</u> Jan.-March 1950	<u>March 31, 1951</u> March 31, 1950
<u>WHOLESALE TRADE(1), CANADA</u>	+ 14.0	+ 22.9	+ 21.0
Maritimes	+ 9.1	+ 17.5	
Quebec	+ 20.7	+ 26.6	
Ontario	+ 15.5	+ 23.8	
Prairies	+ 8.0	+ 18.4	
British Columbia	+ 16.1	+ 27.3	
<u>Auto Parts and Equipment(2)</u>	+ 29.6	+ 46.4	+ 31.4
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 52.1	+ 68.2	
Ontario	+ 25.0	+ 39.7	
Western Provinces	+ 27.1	+ 45.2	
<u>Drugs</u>	+ 14.1	+ 19.1	+ 12.5
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario ..	+ 14.2	+ 18.4	
Western Provinces	+ 13.8	+ 21.2	
<u>Clothing</u>	+ 17.7	+ 24.0	+ 8.5
Quebec	+ 19.0		
Ontario and Western Provinces ..	+ 16.9		
<u>Footwear</u>	+ 21.0	+ 38.3	+ 19.9
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 30.3		
Ontario and Western Provinces ..	+ 13.2		
<u>Dry Goods</u>	+ 21.2	+ 29.7	+ 12.7
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 27.2	+ 34.3	
Ontario	+ 22.4	+ 29.4	
Western Provinces	+ 8.7	+ 21.5	
<u>Fruits and Vegetables</u>	+ 5.6	+ 5.8	+ 0.3
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 5.1	+ 7.6	
Ontario	+ 8.8	+ 9.1	
Western Provinces	+ 2.5	+ 1.6	
<u>Groceries</u>	+ 7.9	+ 17.5	+ 30.5
Maritimes	+ 1.4	+ 10.3	
Quebec	+ 2.4	+ 14.0	
Ontario	+ 5.5	+ 18.7	
Prairies	+ 8.7	+ 18.5	
British Columbia	+ 22.9	+ 22.4	
<u>Hardware</u>	+ 30.8	+ 45.2	+ 18.3
Maritimes	+ 27.0	+ 40.5	
Quebec	+ 57.7	+ 55.3	
Ontario	+ 43.2	+ 49.5	
Western Provinces	+ 14.2	+ 38.8	
<u>Tobacco and Confectionery</u>	+ 2.1	+ 10.9	+ 41.1
Maritimes and Quebec	- 1.5	+ 5.4	
Ontario	+ 10.8	+ 16.6	
Western Provinces	- 3.7	+ 8.1	

(1) Composite of Nine Trades. (2) Designation of this group has been changed from "Automotive Equipment" but the content is the same.

NOTE: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.



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

Month and Year	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
March 1948	264.9	266.7	265.6	266.8	240.7	311.8	318.4	354.4	321.7	305.5
March 1949	283.2	275.0	267.2	288.4	276.3	314.9	337.5	300.9	341.0	357.1
March 1950	293.4	289.3	271.2	298.8	289.3	326.6	335.5	296.7	374.8	325.7
February 1951	303.1	270.4	275.3	316.7	288.0	363.2	459.2	509.1	456.2	446.6
March 1951	334.5	315.6	327.3	345.1	312.4	379.2	434.8	451.3	468.5	414.0
		DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR		DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que.& Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
March 1948	243.7	236.0	265.4	300.0	298.7	266.3	268.6	282.6	264.0	
March 1949	272.5	260.5	305.5	277.2	343.5	269.2	267.8	301.3	266.6	
March 1950	293.2	288.9	305.5	275.3	350.4	255.5	250.1	272.7	278.3	
February 1951	337.7	323.2	384.1	258.5	312.0	292.3	261.5	351.5	260.8	
March 1951	334.5	329.9	347.7	324.0	424.0	309.7	318.1	333.8	302.5	
		GROCERIES					FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
March 1948	226.9	272.1	192.9	226.3	201.0	295.6	216.0	206.6	237.2	194.2
March 1949	241.4	287.6	185.2	244.9	225.9	307.7	255.5	241.1	277.3	235.0
March 1950	261.0	309.5	219.6	260.6	253.0	302.2	266.0	235.6	286.2	253.6
February 1951	271.6	277.1	211.7	266.9	267.8	373.9	240.4	229.1	254.0	231.0
March 1951	281.6	313.8	224.9	274.9	275.0	371.4	280.9	247.6	311.4	259.9
		HARDWARE				TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY				
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
March 1948	351.3	329.4	346.2	354.6	341.6	342.8	387.1	318.7	328.9	
March 1949	374.5	320.8	340.0	398.9	371.7	353.1	375.9	327.6	349.0	
March 1950	367.4	321.1	300.2	386.5	382.9	373.6	410.5	341.7	369.2	
February 1951	407.6	322.9	371.4	460.9	389.2	320.9	292.5	338.1	307.4	
March 1951	480.6	408.1	473.4	553.5	437.3	381.4	404.3	378.6	355.5	