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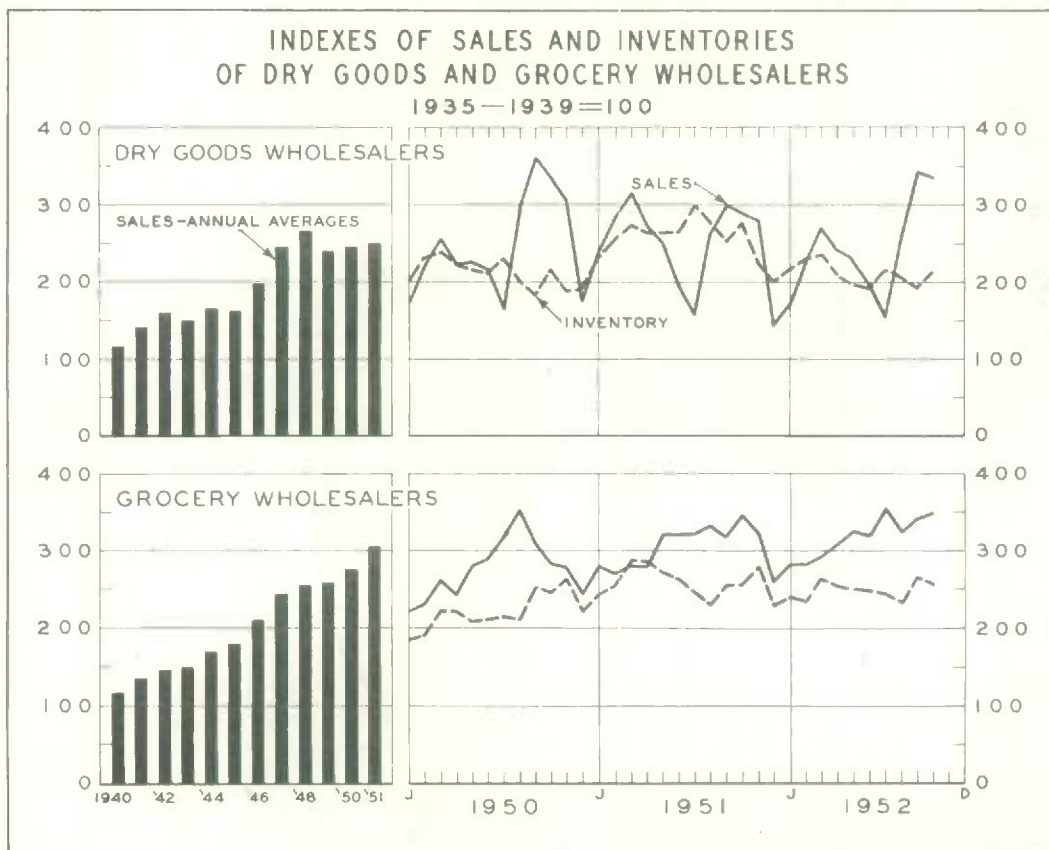


WHOLESALE TRADE

OCTOBER 1952

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 415.5 for October 1952 compared with 383.7 for October a year ago and 404.0 for September 1952.



Sales Trends by Trades

All nine trades surveyed contributed to the over all increase of 8% in sales over October 1951. The clothing trades showed the greatest gains over last year with footwear wholesalers again recording the highest percentage increase at 37%. Wholesalers of clothing reported a 34% gain in sales over October 1951 and other trade increases ranged downward to one of 0.6% for grocery wholesalers. For most trades, percentage gains in sales over last year were higher in the western provinces than in the other parts of the country.

Inventories

Inventories at the end of October, as for September, were 3% lower than at the same date last year. The clothing trades recorded the greatest drops in stocks with declines of 28% for clothing wholesalers, 23% for wholesalers of dry goods, and 12% for footwear wholesalers. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers showed a decrease of 5% in inventories. Nominal gains were recorded in the other trades except fruits and vegetables where the dollar value of inventories were 19% above last year's level.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year	Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939=100)	
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
October 1951	277.4	255.0
September 1952	191.8	267.0
October 1952	214.7	257.0

Wholesale Trade in Canada

OCTOBER, 1952

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	October (P) 1952	September (R) 1952	October 1951	Sales %	Inventory %
Wholesale Trade¹, Canada	415.5	404.0	383.7	+ 8.2	- 2.6
Auto Parts and Equipment	681.8	730.9	580.1	+ 17.5	+ 2.7
Maritimes and Quebec	662.7	625.7	556.9	+ 19.0	
Ontario	696.6	727.1	588.8	+ 18.3	
Western Provinces.....	673.1	814.8	583.8	+ 15.3	
Drugs	431.2	385.9	404.5	+ 6.5	+ 1.3
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	416.4	384.9	393.6	+ 5.8	
Western Provinces	480.4	389.1	440.7	+ 9.0	
Clothing	402.2	331.4	300.6	+ 33.8	- 28.2
Footwear	568.0	575.6	414.9	+ 36.9	- 11.9
Dry Goods	336.1	343.1	289.0	+ 16.5	- 22.6
Maritimes and Quebec	297.6	324.1	251.8	+ 18.2	
Ontario	368.5	352.8	315.5	+ 16.8	
Western Provinces	364.8	363.1	321.1	+ 13.6	
Fruits and Vegetables	324.4	295.3	262.3	+ 20.3	+ 18.9
Maritimes and Quebec	207.2	202.1	202.3	+ 2.4	
Ontario	285.9	272.0	242.5	+ 17.9	
Western Provinces	469.8	404.7	336.8	+ 39.5	
Groceries	349.9	340.9	346.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
Maritimes	373.4	333.5	361.5	+ 3.3	
Quebec	266.0	269.2	298.5	- 10.9	
Ontario	348.9	320.6	334.8	+ 4.2	
Prairies	335.8	353.9	332.1	+ 1.1	
British Columbia	503.7	503.4	473.0	+ 6.5	
Hardware	521.0	520.6	489.3	+ 6.5	+ 1.4
Maritimes	529.0	498.4	502.4	+ 5.3	
Quebec	541.0	549.0	495.4	+ 9.2	
Ontario	529.8	534.4	515.4	+ 2.8	
Western Provinces	504.4	501.4	469.2	+ 7.5	
Tobacco and Confectionery	467.0	429.5	454.7	+ 3.2	- 5.0
Maritimes and Quebec	471.5	419.8	499.5	- 5.6	
Ontario	477.4	441.0	447.0	+ 6.8	
Western Provinces	434.9	420.1	393.2	+ 10.6	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

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