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Industry and Merchandising Division
OTTAWA

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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 362.6 for November 1952 compared with 364.4 for November a year ago and 414.1 for October 1952.


## Sales Trends by Trades

Sales for the nine trades covered in this survey were $0.0 \%$ lower in November this year than last year. The clothing and dry goods trades showed increased sales of $4 \%$ and $13 \%$ respectively; auto parts and equipment wholesalers $8 \%$ while fruit and vegetable and tobacco and confectionery wholesalers showed slight gains in sales. Four trades reported decreased sales with footwear the lowest at $8 \%$ below November 1951.

## Inventories

Inventories at the end of November were fractionally lower than at the same date last year. This decline was a result of reduced stocks held by the clothing trades. The greatest drop in inventories occurred in the clothing trade ( $-24 \%$ ) with dry goods and footwear showing declines of $15 \%$ and $7 \%$ respectively. The other six trades reported slight increases in dollar value of inventories over November 1951.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

| Month and <br> Year | Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories <br> (Average for 1935-1939=100) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dry Coods <br> Wholesalers | Grocery <br> Wovember <br> Wholesalers |
| October | 1951 | 223.0 |

NOVEMBER, 1952

| Trade and Region | Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average $1935-39=100$ ) |  |  | Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { November } \\ 1952 \end{gathered}$ | $\text { Octoper } 192$ | Noyemper | Sales | Inventory |
|  |  |  |  | \% | \% |
| Wholesale Trade ${ }^{1}$, Canada ........... | 362.6 | 424.1 | 364.4 | - 0.8 | - 0.1 |
| Autn Parts and Equipment .......... | 564.8 | 678.5 | 523.4 | + 7.9 | + 4.2 |
| Maritimes and Quebec .............. | 530.8 | 655.5 | 497.0 | + 6.8 |  |
| Ontario ................................... | 521.7 | 693.0 | 529.1 | - 1.4 |  |
| Western Provinces.................... | 656.4 | 673.1 | 534.1 | + 22.9 |  |
| Drugs ....................................... | 384.3 | 431.2 | 387.9 | - 0.9 | + 3.5 |
| Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario | 369.9 | 416.4 | 379.0 | - 2.4 |  |
| Western Provinces ................... | 432.4 | 480.4 | 427.4 | + 3.6 |  |
| Clothing | 322.8 | 403.7 | 309.8 | $+4.2$ | - 24.1 |
| Footwear .................................- | 353.1 | 565.9 | 382.6 | - 7.7 | - 7.3 |
| Dry Goods ................................ | 314.5 | 336.0 | 280.8 | $+13.0$ | - 14.8 |
| Maritimes and Quebec ............... | 298.2 | 297.4 | 243.2 | + 22.6 |  |
| Ontario ................................ | 321.4 | 368.5 | 314.8 | + 2.1 |  |
| Western Provinces ................... | 333.0 | 364.8 | 306.9 | + 8.5 |  |
| Fruits and Vegetables. | 292.3 | 319.9 | 288.6 | $+1.3$ | $+14.4$ |
| Maritimes and Quebec ................ | 220.1 | 207.2 | 223.2 | - 1.4 |  |
| Ontario ............................. | 275.6 | 288.1 | 285.3 | - 3.4 |  |
| Western Provinces ..................... | 376.1 | 455.4 | 354.5 | + 6.1 |  |
| Groceries ..................................... | 305.5 | 349.8 | 321.6 | - 5.6 | + 1.8 |
| Maritimes | 326.5 | 373.1 | 336.9 | - 3.1 |  |
| Quebec ..................................... | 228.6 | 266.0 | 261.6 | - 12.6 |  |
| Ontario ..................................... | 293.3 | 346.2 | 319.5 | - 8.2 |  |
| Prairles ....................................... | 305.0 | 336.4 | 314.8 | - 3.1 |  |
| British Columbia ........................ | 448.4 | 508.9 | 429.5 | + 4.4 |  |
| Hardware ...................................... | 464.9 | 522.5 | 470.6 | - 1.1 | + 1.9 |
| Martimes ...................................... | 383.4 | 529.0 | 370.1 | + 3.6 |  |
| Quebec .............................................................. | 507.1 | 540.5 | 502.1 | + 1.0 |  |
| Ontarlo ....................................... | 480.3 | 529.8 | 507.7 | - 5.4 |  |
| Western Provinces .................... | 446.8 | 508.1 | 448.6 | - 0.4 |  |
| Tobacco and Confectionery ......... | 415.3 | 460.2 | 413.5 | $+\quad 0.4$ | $+0.3$ |
| Maritimes and Quebec ............... | 386.3 | 471.5 | 400.3 | - 3.5 |  |
| Ontario .................................... | 428.7 | 460.9 | 427.0 | $+\quad 0.4$ $+\quad 7.5$ |  |
| Western Pruvinces .................... | 435.8 | 438.4 | 405.4 | + 7.5 |  |

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[^0]:    1. Composite of Nine Trades

    Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.
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