

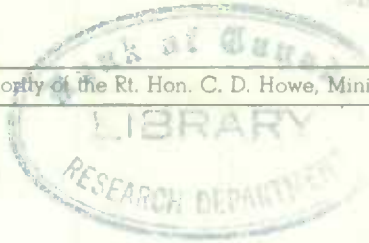
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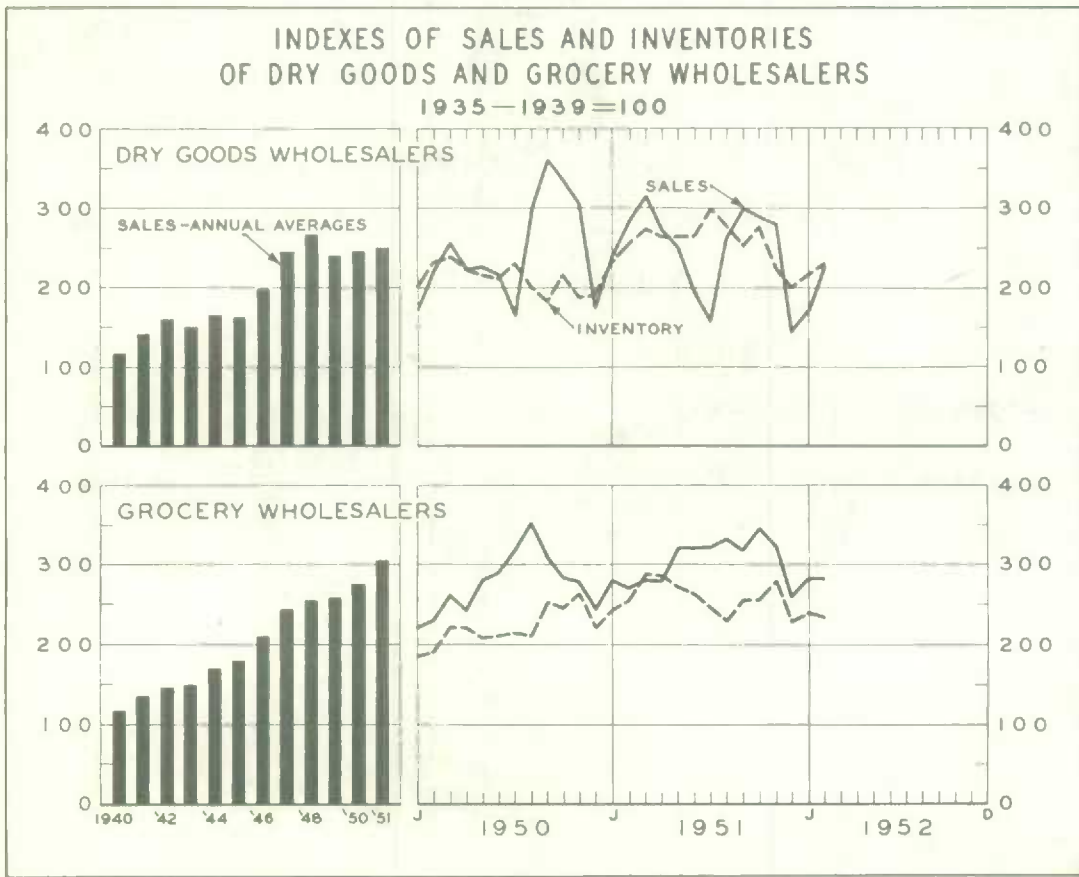
\$1.00 a year

WHOLESALE TRADE

FEBRUARY 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 313.2 for February 1952 compared with 307.9 for February a year ago and 308.7 for January 1952.



Sales Trends by Trades

February sales of wholesalers in the trades covered by this survey were 2% higher than in February 1951. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported the greatest increase in sales - 16% above February last year. Wholesalers of fruits and vegetables showed 15% greater dollar value sales than in February last year, auto parts and equipment increased 8%, groceries increased 4% and drug wholesalers reported a gain of 3%. Wholesale sales of dry goods, clothing, hardware, and footwear continued to decline. Dry goods wholesalers, with a decline of 21%, registered the greatest drop in sales from a year ago.

Inventories

Inventories at the end of February 1952 were down 3% from the same date last year. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers who recorded the greatest increase in sales showed the greatest decrease in stocks (23% below the 1951 level). Groceries and drugs wholesalers recorded decreased stocks of 8% and 3% respectively. Wholesalers of hardware and clothing registered increased stocks of 3% and 1% respectively. Wholesalers of fruits and vegetables and auto parts and equipment also recorded increased stocks (13% and 6% above the 1951 level) while wholesalers of dry goods and footwear, registered decreased stocks - 10% and 8% 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>
February 1951	255.8	253.0	1.26
January 1952	215.9	238.6	1.10
February 1952	231.2	232.8	1.18

Wholesale Trade in Canada

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	February (P) 1952	January (R) 1952	February 1951	Sales %	Inventory %
Wholesale Trade¹, Canada	313.2	308.7	307.9	+ 2.1	- 2.9
Auto Parts and Equipment	502.6	450.2	465.2	+ 8.5	+ 6.4
Maritimes and Quebec	457.7	369.1	509.1	- 10.1	
Ontario	523.7	496.9	456.2	+ 14.8	
Western Provinces.....	503.3	438.6	446.6	+ 12.7	
Drugs	347.1	372.5	337.3	+ 2.8	- 2.8
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	329.0	365.9	323.2	+ 1.8	
Western Provinces	407.5	394.6	384.1	+ 6.1	
Clothing	228.5	210.7	258.5	- 11.6	+ 1.2
Footwear	296.7	166.9	312.0	- 4.9	- 8.5
Dry Goods	225.6	166.1	285.1	- 20.6	- 9.6
Maritimes and Quebec	192.2	126.6	261.5	- 26.5	
Ontario	268.5	198.3	351.5	- 23.6	
Western Provinces	237.3	196.7	260.3	- 9.0	
Fruits and Vegetables.....	272.7	249.5	237.3	+ 15.0	+ 12.9
Maritimes and Quebec	250.2	199.3	229.1	+ 9.2	
Ontario	282.4	297.4	254.0	+ 11.2	
Western Provinces	286.2	257.5	231.0	+ 23.9	
Groceries	281.6	289.7	269.6	+ 3.6	- 8.0
Maritimes	286.5	296.9	277.1	+ 3.4	
Quebec	204.7	186.6	211.7	- 3.3	
Ontario	272.8	301.7	266.9	+ 2.2	
Prairies	279.9	299.0	267.8	+ 4.5	
British Columbia	439.7	407.8	373.9	+ 17.6	
Hardware	354.9	365.9	398.7	- 11.1	+ 3.2
Maritimes	239.3	242.8	322.9	- 25.9	
Quebec	318.7	394.5	371.4	- 14.2	
Ontario	395.9	406.7	460.9	- 14.1	
Western Provinces	368.2	347.0	389.2	- 5.4	
Tobacco and Confectionery	365.0	389.7	316.2	+ 15.5	- 23.0
Maritimes and Quebec	340.2	362.4	292.5	+ 16.3	
Ontario	387.1	402.8	338.1	+ 14.5	
Western Provinces	357.5	407.5	307.4	+ 16.3	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

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