



### Sales Trends by Trades

Wholesale sales continued fractionally higher in September 1953 than in the same month last year according to figures submitted by wholesalers in the nine trades covered in this survey. Sales of drugs were 5% higher than in September 1952 followed by hardware with an increase of 4%, groceries 3% and tobacco and confectionery 2%. Wholesalers of footwear reported decreased sales of 11%, sales of dry goods dropped 7%, while both fruit and vegetable and clothing sales declined 4%. Sales of auto parts and equipment were 3% lower than in September 1952.

### Inventories

The dollar value of stocks held by wholesalers was 5% higher at the end of September 1953 than at the same date last year. Month end inventories of clothing and dry goods increased 32% and 21% respectively. Stocks of footwear were 20% higher, while fruit and vegetable and auto parts and equipment inventories increased 16% and 8% respectively. Smaller gains of 3% and 2% were reported by wholesalers of tobacco and confectionery and groceries. Stocks of drugs declined 3%, while hardware stocks were fractionally lower than at the end of September a year ago.

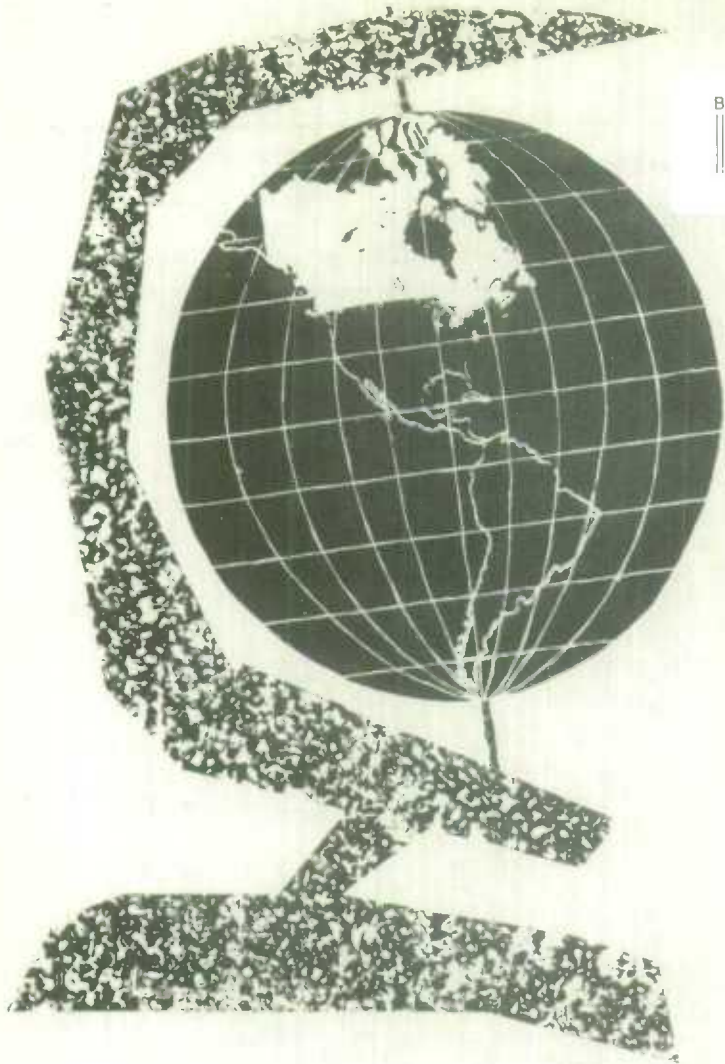
### Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year	Index Number of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939=100)	
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
September 1953	232.1	273.4
August 1953	246.5	236.1
September 1952	191.8	267.0

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	September (P) 1953	August (R) 1953	September 1952	Sales %	Inventory %
<b>Wholesale Trade<sup>1</sup>, Canada .....</b>	408.8	369.4	404.1	+ 0.6	+ 4.8
<b>Auto Parts and Equipment .....</b>	711.2	612.6	731.6	- 3.0	+ 7.8
Maritimes and Quebec .....	555.0	474.6	627.8	- 11.6	
Ontario .....	747.2	620.2	727.6	+ 2.7	
Western Provinces.....	771.6	703.3	814.8	- 5.3	
<b>Drugs .....</b>	407.2	365.7	385.9	+ 5.5	- 2.8
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	407.2	346.6	384.9	+ 5.8	
Western Provinces .....	407.4	429.4	389.1	+ 4.7	
<b>Clothing .....</b>	318.1	278.9	331.4	- 4.0	+ 31.8
<b>Footwear .....</b>	512.3	479.2	575.6	- 11.0	+ 20.5
<b>Dry Goods .....</b>	320.0	266.3	343.1	- 6.7	+ 21.0
Maritimes and Quebec .....	307.9	224.3	324.1	- 5.0	
Ontario .....	327.4	287.3	352.8	- 7.2	
Western Provinces .....	331.5	310.5	363.1	- 8.7	
<b>Fruits and Vegetables.....</b>	289.6	310.9	295.6	- 4.1	+ 16.4
Maritimes and Quebec .....	177.8	212.8	203.2	- 12.5	
Ontario .....	258.9	278.4	272.0	- 4.8	
Western Provinces .....	423.3	432.8	404.7	+ 4.6	
<b>Groceries .....</b>	352.9	327.0	340.9	+ 2.6	+ 2.4
Maritimes .....	335.8	352.9	333.5	+ 0.7	
Quebec .....	246.3	218.8	269.2	- 8.5	
Ontario .....	334.4	320.8	320.6	+ 4.3	
Prairies .....	374.4	340.5	353.9	+ 5.8	
British Columbia .....	565.8	469.0	503.4	+ 12.4	
<b>Hardware .....</b>	541.9	452.7	520.9	+ 3.9	- 0.1
Maritimes .....	509.4	403.3	498.4	+ 2.2	
Quebec .....	564.0	449.5	547.0	+ 3.1	
Ontario .....	588.5	418.1	537.4	+ 9.5	
Western Provinces .....	508.9	481.8	501.4	+ 1.5	
<b>Tobacco and Confectionery .....</b>	438.7	398.2	429.5	+ 2.1	+ 3.3
Maritimes and Quebec .....	433.7	354.3	419.8	+ 3.3	
Ontario .....	452.5	434.3	441.0	+ 2.6	
Western Provinces .....	415.5	392.1	420.1	- 1.1	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.



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