

Tobacco and Confectionery Trade Shows Greatest Gain

Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers continued to register the greatest increase in dollar sales over 1947 with a gain of 13%. Sales of grocery wholesalers were up 11%, while wholesalers of drugs and hardware both reported an increase over last year of 9% in dollar value of business. Automotive equipment wholesalers' sales were less than one per cent above the dollar volume in July, 1947.

Substantial decreases in three trades

Fruit and vegetable dealers and footwear wholesalers, whose sales have been below last year's level each month since the beginning of the year, again reported substantial declines in July. Wholesalers of fruits and vegetables reported sales 23% below July last year, while footwear wholesalers' sales were down 21%. Clothing wholesalers, whose sales in June showed an increase over 1947 for the second month this year, again dropped below 1947 in July by 14%. A slight decrease of 1% was also registered in the dry goods trade.

Inventories Valued 11% Higher

Inventories of wholesalers in the nine lines of trade included in this survey were valued 11% higher at July 31, 1948 than at the same date a year ago and were 7% higher than at the end of June this year.

Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported stocks on hand at the end of July this year at a value 33% higher than at July 31, 1947. Stocks of dry goods wholesalers were valued 20% higher, while hardware and automotive equipment wholesalers reported increases in value of stocks on hand of 19% and 15% respectively. Smaller increases in value of inventories of 5% and 3% were recorded by drug and grocery wholesalers.

Stocks held by footwear, clothing and fruit and vegetable wholesalers continued lower than last year. Decreases in value of stocks on hand at July 31, 1948 compared with July 31, 1947 were as follows: footwear, 6%; clothing, 18%; and fruits and vegetables, 31%.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY July 1948 July 1947
	S a l e s			Jan. -to- July 1948 Jan. -to- July 1947	
	(1) June, 1948 June, 1947	(2) July, 1948 July, 1947	July, 1948 June, 1948		
Automotive Equipment	+ 2.4	+ 0.5	- 7.7	- 0.5	+15.4
Maritimes and Quebec	- 4.0	+ 2.8	+ 0.9		
Ontario	+ 3.4	- 2.1	+ 2.2		
Western Provinces	+ 4.4	+ 2.1	-20.9		
Drugs	+19.4	+ 9.4	+ 1.6	+11.6	+ 4.9
Maritimes, Quebec and Ont.	+16.8	+ 6.2	+ 1.9		
Western Provinces	+28.0	+19.4	+ 1.8		
Clothing	+14.8	-14.0	-30.4	- 3.2	-18.3
Quebec	+14.8	- 4.7			
Ontario & Western Prov ...	+14.8	-20.1			
Footwear	-11.7	-20.7	-21.5	- 9.7	- 6.4
Maritimes and Quebec	-13.5	-22.5			
Ont. and Western Provinces	-10.3	-18.6			
Dry Goods	+12.1	- 1.4	-25.3	+ 2.9	+20.3
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 8.2	+ 0.2	-41.7		
Ontario	+13.1	- 7.3	-22.4		
Western Provinces	+18.1	+ 3.8	+11.6		
Fruits and Vegetables	-19.0	-22.5	- 0.7	-17.1	-30.8
Maritimes and Quebec	-29.6	-22.1	-10.6		
Ontario	- 8.2	-17.3	- 4.1		
Western Provinces	-23.4	-26.6	+12.3		
Groceries	+13.4	+11.1	+ 7.7	+ 7.3	+ 2.8
Maritimes	+24.3	+ 7.8	+ 3.7		
Quebec	+ 3.5	- 6.5	+ 1.8		
Ontario	+11.4	+ 7.2	+ 3.3		
Prairies	+17.0	+21.2	+18.6		
British Columbia	+10.3	+19.0	+ 2.5		
Hardware	+15.8	+ 8.5	- 9.7	+ 8.2	+19.2
Maritimes	+11.0	+14.2	- 8.5		
Quebec	+24.7	+12.3	-16.8		
Ontario	+18.1	+ 9.0	-19.4		
Western Provinces	+10.7	+ 5.4	- 4.2		
Tobacco and Confectionery .	+20.9	+12.9	- 0.8	+12.6	+33.2
Maritimes and Quebec	+21.8	+ 6.6	- 6.8		
Ontario	+20.4	+14.5	- 0.5		
Western Provinces	+20.9	+14.4	+ 2.5		
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+16.3	+ 6.5	+ 2.9		
Quebec	+ 4.3	- 2.7	- 8.3		
Ontario	+10.3	+ 1.9	- 5.2		
Prairies	+10.7	+ 3.8	+ 5.7		
British Columbia	+ 3.7	+ 9.5	+ 3.2		
CANADA	+ 8.8	+ 2.9	- 2.0	+ 3.6	+10.7

(1) Revised.

(2) Preliminary.



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

Year and Month	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
July, 1945	204.9	240.6	183.4	201.2	208.2	233.6	228.3	281.8	192.9	241.3
July, 1946	250.8	281.5	216.8	249.3	263.8	279.9	322.4	408.3	302.5	307.4
July, 1947	276.9	298.7	241.3	279.2	282.5	322.7	348.2	391.6	365.4	316.3
June, 1948	290.8	309.2	256.0	300.0	277.4	342.3	379.0	399.0	349.9	408.0
July, 1948	284.9	318.1	234.8	284.5	293.2	353.4	349.9	402.6	357.7	322.9

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
July, 1945	208.0	203.0	221.3	146.7	155.9	121.8	103.2	129.7	149.2
July, 1946	234.4	227.6	253.2	172.4	190.7	161.6	132.1	177.8	200.7
July, 1947	256.0	248.1	278.3	196.0	216.3	180.8	145.0	200.2	229.4
June, 1948	275.6	258.5	326.3	242.1	218.5	238.8	249.3	239.2	213.4
July, 1948	280.1	263.5	332.3	168.6	171.5	178.3	145.3	185.6	238.1

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
July, 1945	186.6	231.1	167.1	187.0	177.1	192.1	297.9	300.2	279.2	308.3
July, 1946	220.6	275.9	198.7	220.8	208.3	225.7	340.5	290.9	330.0	382.0
July, 1947	262.5	305.7	240.4	266.3	243.1	285.7	329.3	270.5	326.4	370.2
June, 1948	270.8	317.7	220.8	276.4	248.5	331.7	257.0	235.6	281.5	242.0
July, 1948	291.6	329.5	224.8	285.5	294.6	340.0	255.2	210.7	269.9	271.7

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
July, 1945	203.5	192.8	190.0	166.2	231.5	258.4	236.8	260.6	246.6
July, 1946	281.8	257.2	247.8	254.8	316.9	317.6	300.0	305.4	313.9
July, 1947	310.5	279.1	272.1	299.9	339.7	339.8	353.4	318.5	330.5
June, 1948	373.0	348.2	367.1	407.6	373.6	386.5	404.4	366.4	368.7
July, 1948	336.9	318.7	305.6	328.4	358.0	383.6	376.7	364.7	378.1