

Upward Trend in Sales Continues

September increases exceeded the cumulative gain for the year to date in all trades except drugs while in four trades, automotive equipment, clothing, dry goods, and hardware, dollar sales in the month of September surpassed all previous figures.

The increase of 23% over September, 1947 registered by clothing wholesalers was the largest of the month, sales of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers following with a gain of 16%. September sales by wholesalers of hardware were 13% above September, 1947, while footwear and dry goods wholesalers' sales increased 12%. Grocers' sales were up 9% and drugs, 7%. Wholesalers of automotive equipment reported an increase of 5% over the already high volume of 1947.

Fruit and vegetable dealers' sales for Canada showed a smaller drop from 1947 than has been recorded so far this year, but the results varied by regions. A gain of 7% in the Western Provinces partially offset declines of 20% in the Maritimes and Quebec combined and of 8% in Ontario, resulting in a drop of only 2% for Canada as a whole.

Stocks Continue Below 1947 in Three Trades.

The value of stocks held by wholesalers in the nine trades combined at the end of September was 14% higher than at the same date a year ago but clothing, fruit and vegetable and footwear wholesalers reported decreases in value of stocks of 29%, 14% and 12% respectively.

All other trades showed substantial increases in value of inventories compared with last year. Wholesalers of hardware and dry goods reported stocks on hand valued 20% higher than at September 30, 1947, while gains of 19% and 16% were recorded by tobacco and confectionery and grocery wholesalers. A gain of 7% in value of stocks was registered for drug wholesalers while stocks on hand in the automotive equipment trade were valued 5% higher than at the same date last year.

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY
	Sales				
	(1) August, 1948 August, 1947	(2) September, 1948 September, 1947	September, 1948 August, 1948	Jan.-to- Sept.,1948 Jan.-to- Sept.,1947	
Automotive Equipment	- 0.8	+ 4.6	+34.0	+ 0.2	+ 5.2
Maritimes and Quebec	-12.1	- 1.6	+22.3		
Ontario	- 3.2	+ 4.2	+49.4		
Western Provinces	+ 6.6	+ 7.6	+25.5		
Drugs	+15.6	+ 7.4	+ 5.2	+11.6	+ 7.4
Maritimes, Quebec and Ont.	+17.3	+ 6.4	+13.0		
Western Provinces	+11.9	+10.5	-11.8		
Clothing	+ 4.1	+23.3	+18.0	+ 0.9	-29.3
Quebec	+ 3.7	+30.2			
Ontario & Western Prov....	+ 4.3	+19.1			
Footwear	+ 8.6	+12.3	+16.8	- 4.1	-11.9
Maritimes and Quebec	+12.4	+10.3			
Ont. and Western Provinces	+ 5.8	+14.1			
Dry Goods	+19.7	+11.8	+18.9	+ 6.0	+19.9
Maritimes and Quebec	+23.1	+13.8	+38.9		
Ontario	+17.8	+ 5.8	+ 1.9		
Western Provinces	+17.2	+17.3	+12.8		
Fruits and Vegetables	-18.2	- 2.2	+ 9.6	-15.7	-14.4
Maritimes and Quebec	-25.3	-19.7	+ 1.8		
Ontario	-17.3	- 8.3	+ 3.5		
Western Provinces	-15.9	+ 7.4	+20.0		
Groceries	+16.8	+ 9.0	+ 4.6	+ 8.5	+16.4
Maritimes	+17.0	+ 2.5	- 2.9		
Quebec	+12.3	+ 4.2	+18.7		
Ontario	+18.1	+10.6	+ 1.0		
Prairies	+16.0	+14.6	+ 6.4		
British Columbia	+19.8	+ 6.1	+ 6.5		
Hardware	+14.0	+12.6	+12.6	+ 9.3	+20.1
Maritimes.....	+11.4	+11.6	+32.2		
Quebec.....	+ 7.5	+13.7	+23.4		
Ontario	+19.5	+21.7	+44.0		
Western Provinces	+15.6	+ 7.9	+ 1.9		
Tobacco and Confectionery .	+12.4	+16.1	+ 7.9	+12.9	+19.2
Maritimes and Quebec	+ 7.8	+16.2	+19.4		
Ontario	+10.4	+13.1	+ 1.0		
Western Provinces	+16.8	+19.1	+ 8.1		
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+11.3	+ 3.6	+ 6.7		
Quebec	+ 5.9	+ 7.2	+25.1		
Ontario	+10.0	+ 8.5	+ 9.8		
Prairies	+ 8.5	+13.7	+ 9.9		
British Columbia	+12.8	+ 6.2	+ 1.4		
CANADA	+ 9.2	+ 9.0	+10.7	+ 4.8	+13.8

(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
September, 1945	215.8	237.9	202.4	208.1	228.9	221.6	293.6	300.3	239.4	329.1
September, 1946	257.2	270.7	241.9	253.5	268.3	266.8	387.6	371.8	358.4	404.5
September, 1947	301.7	316.4	292.5	296.6	301.8	330.6	481.8	491.9	460.9	475.7
August, 1948	297.2	307.3	250.6	293.0	312.2	346.1	376.0	395.9	321.5	408.0
September, 1948	328.9	327.8	313.6	321.8	343.1	351.1	504.0	484.0	480.3	511.9

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September, 1945	227.1	236.6	203.6	199.2	243.9	191.3	192.2	187.9	189.9
September, 1946	258.4	267.8	235.6	243.4	337.6	232.2	223.1	239.9	231.3
September, 1947	273.9	285.2	246.7	261.7	378.1	302.6	297.4	313.5	288.7
August, 1948	279.6	268.6	309.0	273.5	363.6	284.5	243.7	325.4	300.3
September, 1948	294.2	303.5	272.6	322.7	424.6	338.3	338.4	331.7	338.6

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September, 1945	179.6	207.3	165.4	171.7	177.2	204.8	270.7	205.1	256.6	340.7
September, 1946	223.4	247.5	212.7	226.1	205.9	257.4	275.0	203.5	237.9	372.4
September, 1947	275.2	301.0	265.4	265.2	260.5	333.8	278.6	209.8	259.8	356.4
August, 1948	286.9	317.7	233.0	290.5	280.6	332.7	248.7	165.5	230.1	318.9
September, 1948	300.0	308.5	276.5	293.3	298.5	354.2	272.5	168.5	238.2	382.8

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September, 1945	228.6	242.4	235.7	217.1	237.3	250.5	248.0	251.3	238.2
September, 1946	280.9	294.8	279.8	277.9	291.9	292.8	288.7	294.5	278.5
September, 1947	339.6	371.2	346.4	347.7	342.1	322.7	341.8	316.9	305.0
August, 1948	339.5	313.5	319.1	293.9	362.3	347.3	332.7	354.8	336.0
September, 1948	382.4	414.3	393.9	423.2	369.1	374.7	397.2	358.4	363.3