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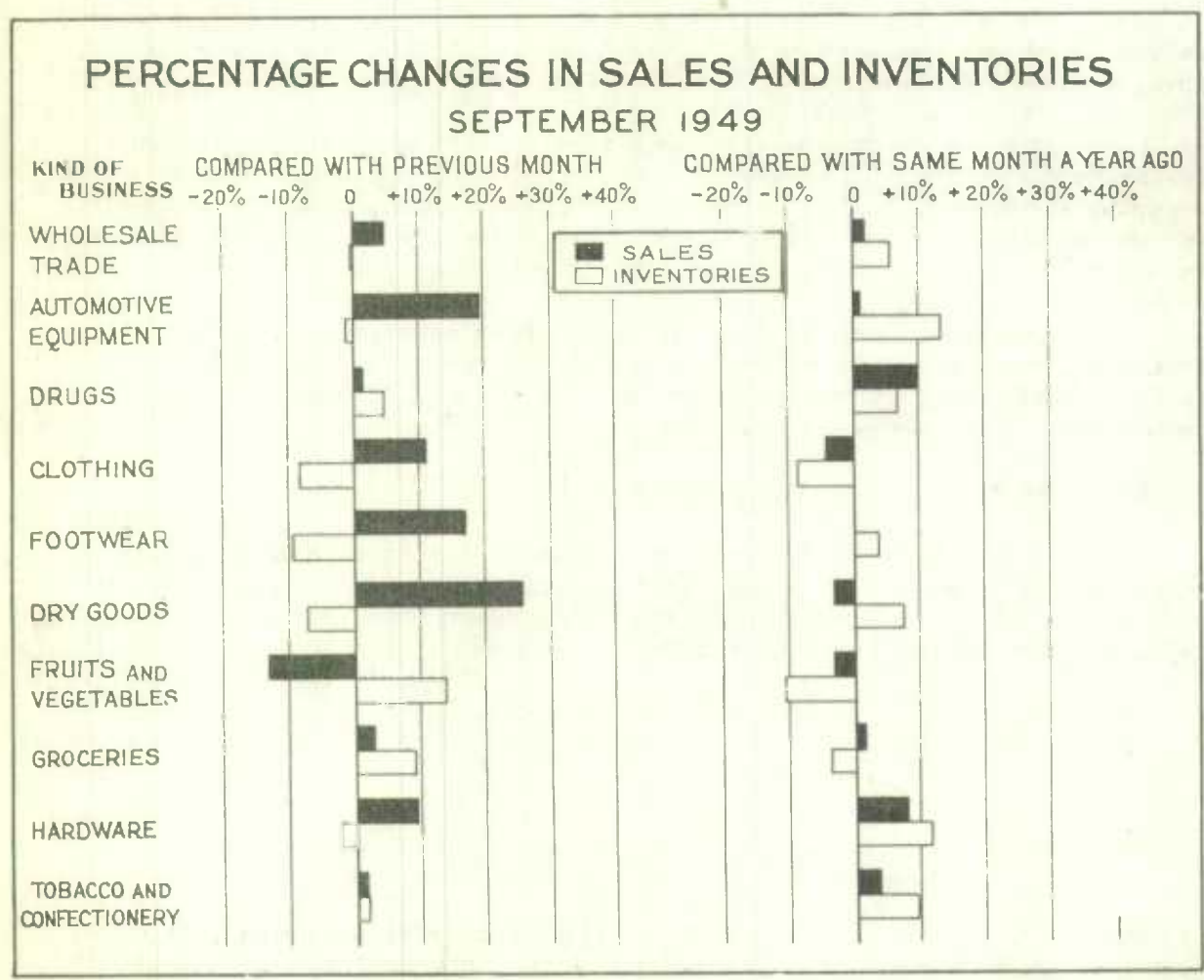
WHOLESALE TRADE

SEPTEMBER 1949

Small Gain in September Over A Year Ago

Wholesalers' sales in September, 1949 were 2% higher in dollar volume than in September a year ago and 5% in excess of the August, 1949 volume according to statements submitted by 371 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade. Cumulative sales for the nine months of 1949 were 4% above the dollar sales in the corresponding period of 1948. The unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939 = 100) stood at 333.2 for September, 1949, 327.0 for September, 1948, and 318.1 for August, 1949.

The Prairie Provinces, with an increase of 5%, showed the largest percentage gain over 1948. Sales of wholesalers in Ontario were up 3% and in the Maritime Provinces, 1%. Decreases of 1% and 3% were registered for Quebec and British Columbia respectively.



Only 2 Trades Show Significant Gains

Drug wholesalers, with an increase of 10% in sales, and hardware wholesalers, with an increase of 8%, were the only two trades to register any marked improvement in dollar volume of business over September, 1948. Sales of automotive equipment wholesalers registered the smallest gain over 1948 of any month this year at 1%.

Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers' sales were up 3% from September a year ago and grocery wholesalers reported a gain of 1%. The other food trade included in the survey, fruits and vegetables, registered a decrease of 3% in dollar volume of sales in September this year compared with last. This is the first month in 1949 that fruit and vegetable dealers' sales have dropped below the corresponding-month sales for 1948.

Footwear sales were unchanged from the September, 1948, level. While decreases were recorded in the dry goods and clothing trades. Sales of dry goods wholesalers were down 3% from September, 1948, while a decrease of 4% was reported by clothing wholesalers.

Stocks Valued 6% above September, 1948

Wholesalers' inventories at the end of September, 1949, were valued 6% higher than stocks on hand at the end of the same month in 1948, and were virtually unchanged in value from August 31, 1949.

Only three of the nine trades recorded inventories lower in dollar value than at September 30, 1948. Fruit and vegetable dealers reported a decrease of 11% in value of stocks on hand, clothing wholesalers' stocks were down 9%, while stocks of grocery wholesalers were valued 4% lower than at the corresponding date last year.

Increases ranging from 4% to 13% were experienced in the remaining six trades, with hardware and automotive equipment wholesalers' stocks showing the greatest improvement at 11% and 13% respectively over September 30, 1948.

Stocks-Sales Ratio in the Grocery Trade

Stocks held by wholesalers at the beginning of September are normally 10% in excess of sales for that month (based on the average for 1936-1942). Stocks at the beginning of September this year were valued 14% lower than sales for that month.

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY Sept., 1949 Sept., 1948
	SALES				
	(1) August, 1949 August, 1948	(2) September, 1949 September, 1948	September, 1949 August, 1949	Jan.-to- Sept., 1949 Jan.-to- Sept., 1948	
Automotive Equipment.....	+12.3	+ 1.1	+19.1	+ 6.0	+ 13.3
Maritimes and Quebec.....	+ 4.1	- 8.8	+ 7.7	- 8.3	
Ontario	+23.2	+ 4.0	+25.0	+ 8.3	
Western Provinces	+ 7.4	+ 2.2	+16.4	+ 9.6	
Drugs	+14.3	+ 9.9	+ 1.2	+ 9.4	+ 6.8
Maritimes, Que. and Ont..	+14.7	+ 9.2	+ 7.6	+ 9.8	
Western Provinces	+13.5	+11.9	-12.8	+ 8.5	
Clothing	+ 2.2	- 4.1	+10.7	- 5.5	- 8.5
Quebec	+ 3.4	+ 5.8			
Ont. and Western Provinces	+ 1.6	- 9.4			
Footwear	- 3.1	(x)	+16.8	- 0.3	+ 3.8
Maritimes and Quebec	- 0.5	- 9.7			
Ont. and Western Provinces	- 5.2	+ 8.8			
Dry Goods	- 8.3	- 3.2	+25.4	- 7.5	+ 7.1
Maritimes and Quebec	-10.5	- 6.7	+44.4	- 9.8	
Ontario	- 5.9	+ 1.8	+10.3	- 4.7	
Western Provinces	- 8.1	- 3.8	+18.0	- 7.0	
Fruits and Vegetables	+22.2	- 3.3	-13.3	+15.4	-10.8
Maritimes and Quebec	+15.9	-13.3	-24.6	+10.5	
Ontario	+10.0	- 4.7	- 9.7	+11.7	
Western Provinces	+33.0	+ 0.3	-8.6	+21.4	
Groceries	+ 2.6	+ 1.3	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	- 3.8
Maritimes	+ 1.5	+ 2.4	- 1.8	- 0.8	
Quebec	+ 4.7	(x)	+10.1	- 3.5	
Ontario	+ 0.5	+ 2.6	+ 3.2	+ 3.0	
Prairies	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 5.1	+ 3.4	
British Columbia	+11.2	+ 0.6	- 3.7	+ 4.8	
Hardware	+11.3	+ 7.6	+ 9.1	+ 6.3	+11.3
Maritimes	+ 9.7	- 2.7	+19.1	+ 2.1	
Quebec	+ 9.2	+ 8.5	+23.0	+ 2.9	
Ontario	+15.8	+ 5.6	+31.3	+ 9.5	
Western Provinces	+10.4	+ 9.4	+ 1.0	+ 6.9	
Tobacco and Confectionery..	+ 9.5	+ 3.1	+ 1.4	+ 5.0	+ 9.1
Maritimes and Quebec	+10.7	+ 4.1	+11.2	+ 4.0	
Ontario	+ 8.2	+ 3.6	- 3.8	+ 4.2	
Western Provinces	+10.4	+ 2.1	+ 0.7	+ 6.2	
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+ 3.1	+ 1.2	+ 5.2	(x)	
Quebec	+ 4.7	- 0.8	+16.5	- 0.6	
Ontario	+ 6.3	+ 3.0	+ 6.3	+ 5.3	
Prairies	+11.4	+ 4.6	+ 3.0	+ 9.6	
British Columbia	+ 6.6	- 2.5	- 7.3	+ 1.0	
CANADA	+ 7.2	+ 1.9	+ 4.7	+ 4.3	+ 5.5

(1) Revised (2) Preliminary (x) Unchanged.

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not available



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, 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
September, 1948	327.0	326.5	306.8	320.9	342.8	350.8	497.2	486.5	476.1	499.0
August, 1949	318.1	314.2	261.1	310.9	348.3	368.9	422.2	412.1	396.1	438.2
September, 1949	333.2	330.4	304.3	330.5	358.6	342.0	502.7	443.7	495.1	510.0

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR		DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
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	
September, 1948	294.4	303.5	273.3	311.9	411.4	338.0	337.5	331.7	338.6	
August, 1949	319.6	308.1	350.7	270.3	352.3	260.9	218.1	306.2	276.0	
September, 1949	323.5	331.4	305.8	299.1	411.4	327.2	314.9	337.7	325.7	

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
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
September, 1948	296.1	305.5	262.2	293.6	296.2	354.2	272.7	169.1	239.8	386.3
August, 1949	292.8	318.6	238.1	292.0	282.1	370.0	304.3	194.5	253.1	424.1
September, 1949	299.9	312.8	262.2	301.2	296.5	356.3	263.7	146.6	228.5	387.5

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
September, 1946	280.9	294.8	279.8	277.9	291.9	292.8	288.7	294.6	278.5
September, 1947	339.6	371.2	346.4	347.7	342.1	322.7	341.8	316.9	305.0
September, 1948	383.1	420.9	395.2	423.2	369.1	375.0	397.9	357.1	365.7
August, 1949	377.9	343.9	348.5	340.3	400.0	381.3	372.4	384.7	370.9
September, 1949	412.2	409.5	428.8	446.9	403.8	386.6	414.2	370.0	373.4