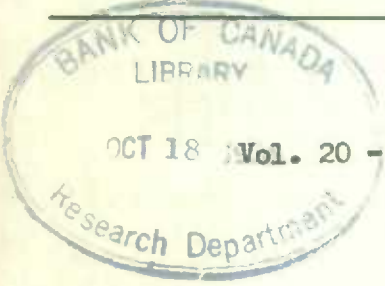


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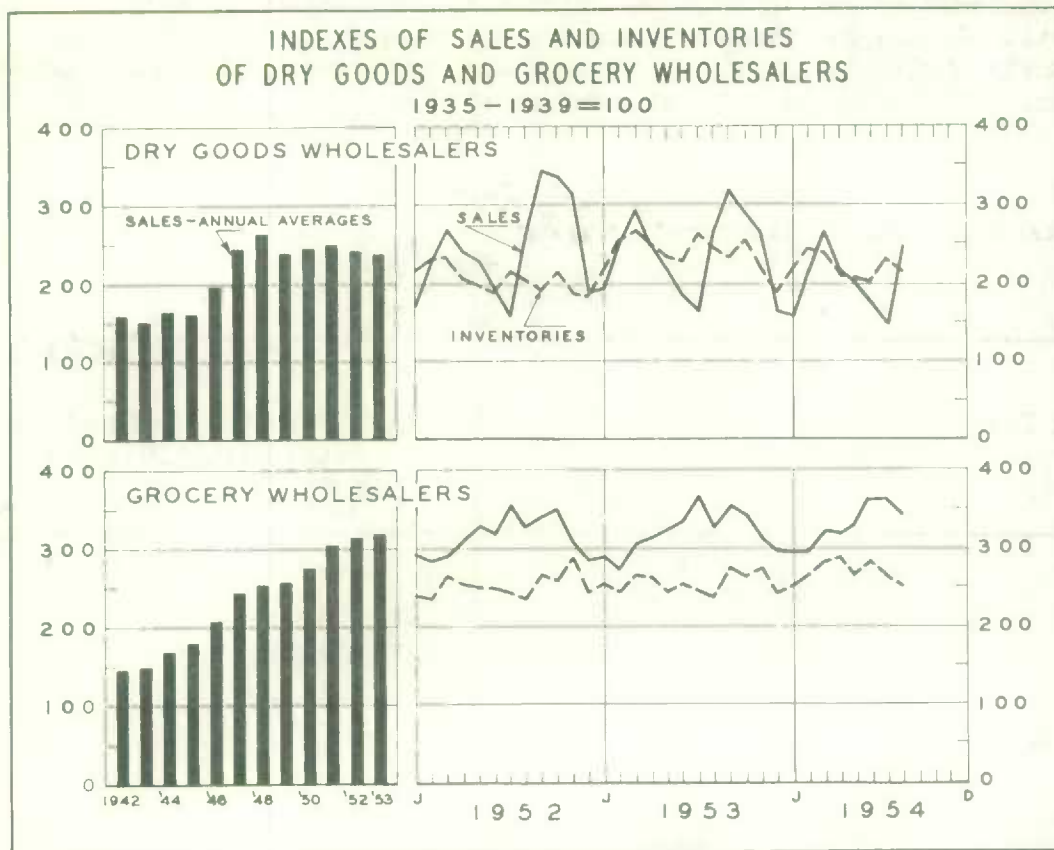


\$1.00 a year

## WHOLESALE TRADE AUGUST 1954

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 378.8 for August 1954 compared with 368.8 for August a year ago and 371.1 for July 1954.



Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section,  
Industry and Merchandising Division.

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Sales Trends by Trades

In August, 1954, sales of wholesalers covered by this report were almost 3% over the same month of 1953 and 2% above July 1954. In comparison with the previous year six of the nine trades reported increases which ranged from 6.5% for drug wholesalers and 4.9% for grocery wholesalers to 1.5% for tobacco and confectionery wholesalers and 1.3% for hardware wholesalers. Decreases were shown by three trades, the largest being a reduction of 11.9% for clothing wholesalers followed by dry goods wholesalers with 7.2% and footwear wholesalers with 3.5%.

Inventories

There was a decrease of slightly over 1% in the value of stocks on hand at the end of August 1954 compared with the corresponding month of the previous year. Three wholesale trades reported large decreases in the value of stocks on hand; footwear wholesalers 17.7%, clothing wholesalers 14.2% and dry goods wholesalers 11.6%. Two small decreases were reported, one of 2.3% for hardware wholesalers and the other amounting to 1.6% for auto parts and equipment wholesalers. Of the four trades reporting increases, the largest involved fruit and vegetable wholesalers with 14.3%, followed by tobacco and confectionery wholesalers with 11.3%, grocery wholesalers with 6.5% and drug wholesalers 4.4%.

## Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year

Monthly Indexes of Wholesale Inventories  
(Average for 1935-1939=100)

	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
August 1954	217.9	251.4
July 1954	232.6	265.6
August 1953	246.5	236.1

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	August (P) 1954	July (R) 1954	August 1953	Sales %	Inventory %
<b>Wholesale Trade<sup>1</sup>, Canada .....</b>	378.8	371.1	368.8	+ 2.9	- 1.2
<b>Auto Parts and Equipment .....</b>	631.8	561.1	612.2	+ 3.3	- 1.6
Maritimes and Quebec .....	452.8	444.3	474.6	- 4.6	
Ontario .....	713.2	661.2	620.2	+ 15.0	
Western Provinces.....	639.3	493.7	701.8	- 8.9	
<b>Drugs .....</b>	389.3	380.1	365.7	+ 6.5	+ 4.4
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	369.5	356.5	346.6	+ 6.6	
Western Provinces .....	455.2	458.8	429.4	+ 6.0	
<b>Clothing .....</b>	253.9	172.0	288.2	- 11.9	- 14.2
<b>Footwear .....</b>	462.4	220.0	479.2	- 3.5	- 17.7
<b>Dry Goods .....</b>	247.5	150.1	265.7	- 7.2	- 11.6
Maritimes and Quebec .....	199.4	104.0	223.0	- 10.6	
Ontario .....	283.4	170.2	287.4	- 1.4	
Western Provinces .....	287.5	201.3	310.5	- 7.4	
<b>Fruits and Vegetables.....</b>	335.8	375.8	310.8	+ 8.0	+ 14.3
Maritimes and Quebec .....	223.2	291.2	212.6	+ 5.0	
Ontario .....	314.6	377.5	278.4	+ 13.0	
Western Provinces .....	462.2	455.8	432.8	+ 6.8	
<b>Groceries .....</b>	343.9	362.0	327.3	+ 4.9	+ 6.5
Maritimes .....	357.1	356.2	352.9	+ 1.2	
Quebec .....	232.1	268.8	220.8	+ 5.1	
Ontario .....	335.9	350.7	320.8	+ 4.7	
Prairies .....	358.9	376.5	340.5	+ 5.4	
British Columbia .....	511.2	532.3	469.0	+ 9.0	
<b>Hardware .....</b>	450.2	430.3	446.8	+ 1.3	- 2.3
Maritimes .....	441.6	400.3	403.3	+ 9.5	
Quebec .....	472.4	432.1	449.5	+ 5.1	
Ontario .....	428.5	448.8	394.9	+ 8.5	
Western Provinces .....	452.4	423.4	481.8	- 6.1	
<b>Tobacco and Confectionery .....</b>	399.0	419.9	398.2	+ 1.5	+ 11.3
Maritimes and Quebec .....	351.8	380.6	354.3	- 0.7	
Ontario .....	437.3	441.2	434.3	+ 0.7	
Western Provinces .....	393.7	439.9	392.1	+ 0.4	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

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