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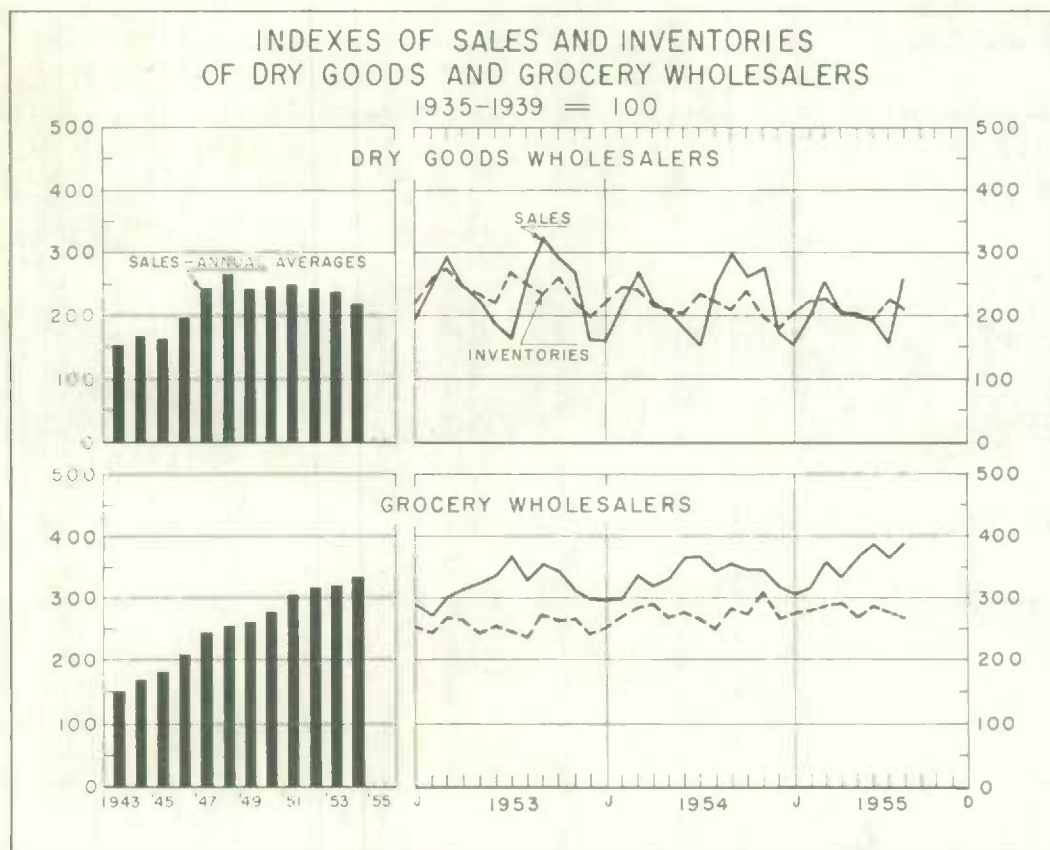
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\$1.00 a year

WHOLESALE TRADE AUGUST 1955

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 419.5 for August 1955 compared with 378.1 for August a year ago and 377.9 for July 1955.



Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section,
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Sales Trends by Trades

All nine trades surveyed showed an increase in sales for the month of August, 1955, compared with this month in 1954. Groceries made the greatest advance at 13.6% while the increase in footwear sales was barely perceptible. The composite figure for Canada stood at 10.7% increase.

Inventories

Inventories of fruits and vegetables and footwear registered large increases, 26.9% and 24.2% respectively, over the same month a year ago. These increases were offset by decreases in three trades and the change for the country as a whole was less than one percent.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year	Monthly Indexes of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939=100)	
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	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
August 1955	208.8	264.8
July 1955	223.8	274.1
August 1954	217.7	249.6

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	August (P) 1955	July (R) 1955	August 1954	Sales %	Inventory %
Wholesale Trade¹, Canada	419.5	377.9	378.1	+ 10.7	- 0.7
Auto Parts and Equipment	710.5	675.2	631.8	+ 11.6	+ 2.1
Maritimes and Quebec	456.0	481.6	452.8	+ 0.7	
Ontario	813.8	863.5	713.2	+ 14.1	
Western Provinces.....	740.3	529.2	639.3	+ 15.8	
Drugs	432.4	386.3	389.3	+ 11.1	+ 5.9
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	410.1	364.0	369.5	+ 11.0	
Western Provinces	506.6	460.6	455.2	+ 11.3	
Clothing	280.0	165.3	255.9	+ 9.4	+ 1.8
Footwear	463.8	198.4	462.4	+ 0.3	+ 24.2
Dry Goods	259.5	153.3	248.5	+ 4.1	- 4.1
Maritimes and Quebec	206.2	118.7	201.8	+ 2.2	
Ontario	291.1	157.9	283.4	+ 2.7	
Western Provinces	311.4	201.5	287.5	+ 8.3	
Fruits and Vegetables.....	341.1	344.7	333.6	+ 3.2	+ 26.9
Maritimes and Quebec	243.9	291.8	220.7	+ 10.5	
Ontario	299.9	349.0	310.1	- 3.3	
Western Provinces	469.6	392.0	462.2	+ 1.6	
Groceries	389.3	363.1	342.3	+ 13.6	+ 6.1
Maritimes	403.1	364.4	356.4	+ 13.1	
Quebec	263.4	240.0	232.1	+ 13.5	
Ontario	373.7	357.0	330.7	+ 13.0	
Prairies	408.4	379.9	358.9	+ 13.8	
British Columbia	592.5	557.3	511.7	+ 15.8	
Hardware	509.9	438.2	450.8	+ 13.1	- 7.8
Maritimes	465.0	407.5	441.6	+ 5.3	
Quebec	522.0	464.9	472.4	+ 10.5	
Ontario	483.4	453.7	430.8	+ 12.2	
Western Provinces	525.7	420.4	452.4	+ 16.2	
Tobacco and Confectionery	440.4	432.8	398.4	+ 11.1	- 5.5
Maritimes and Quebec	423.2	420.2	351.8	+ 20.3	
Ontario	461.7	445.2	436.0	+ 5.9	
Western Provinces	421.3	426.3	393.7	+ 7.0	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

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