OTTAWA - CANADA

\$1.00 a year

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March sales of Canadian wholesalers were estimated at $\$ 706,466,000,11.8 \%$ above sales of $632,026,000$ in March 2958 . Total sales for the first three months of the year amounted to $1,916,327,000$, up $10.2 \%$ from the corresponding period last year. "These sales cover "wholesalers proper" and do not include the "business transactions of manufacturers' sales branches or agents and brokers. They are not adjuster for price changes, seasonal variations or number of business days in the respective months.

All but two of the 18 trade groups reported increases for the month of March ranging from 25.0 for the "all other trees" group to $0.3 \%$ for construction materials and supplies, including lumber, $\varepsilon$ nd for household electrical appliances. Other trades recording substantial increases were: automotive parts and accessories ( $17.0 \%$ ), industrial and transportation equipment and supplies (15.2\%), drugs and drug sundries ( $12.9 \%$ ), farm machinery ( $1.1 .0 \%$ ), groceries and food specialties ( $10.5 \%$ ). Decreases were registered for fresh fruits and vegetables ( $6.2 \%$ ) and meat and dairy products ( $2.5 \%$ ). Also, when combined for the first three months of the year, sales of newsprint, paper and paper products and of household electrical appliances show decreases of $1.6 \%$ and 1 . $6 \%$ respectively while sales of coal and colo have remained relatively unchanged compared with the same period last year.

Further detail on the sales of the various trade groups will be found on the reverse side of this page.

Prepared in the Industry and Merchandising Division

HOLDCAIE TRADE

## 1arch 1959

Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentages Changes


