

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
Chief, Internal Trade Branch:	Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.
Prices Statistician:	H. F. Greenway, M.A.

WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1936-1937

(1926=100)

For the first time in eleven weeks the Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, moved lower, falling from 81.9 for the week ending January 15 to 81.4 for the week ending January 22. Reactions on some of the commodity markets were quite marked and recessions occurred in grains, raw rubber, live stock, dairy products and several of the non-ferrous metals. Potatoes, leather and meats moved up, however, and copper prices, although mixed, averaged higher.

Vegetable Products dropped from 88.3 to 86.8. The grain index lost 3.6 points during the week when exceptionally heavy Argentine export shipments weakened wheat markets, and milled products moved lower in sympathy. Fresh fruits, vegetable oils, raw rubber and raw sugar were easier while slight gains were recorded for potatoes and miscellaneous vegetables. Animal Products declined from 75.5 to 75.3. Meats were firm and hides continued to climb but reductions occurred in live stock, milk products and eggs. The recovery in hides has been particularly strong and the index for this group rose to 114.3 from 57.6 in the corresponding week of last year. The leather index, however, has advanced less sharply during the period, from 74.7 to 93.0. In the Textile group, raw wool experienced a slight reaction after moving forward in a fairly steady manner since last October, but the change was not sufficient to affect the index which remained at 71.8. Copper markets have been nervous during the past week and prices reported were spotty, although the group index advanced .5 points. Reductions in lead, tin and zinc, however, proved of more importance and the index for Non-ferrous Metals decreased from 83.3 to 82.9. Wood, Iron, Non-metallic Minerals and Chemicals remained at 71.6, 92.0, 85.5 and 80.8 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products fell from 87.6 to 85.4. Field Products declined from 90.7 to 87.8, largely because of reductions in grains, while Animal Products dropped from 82.3 to 81.5 owing to weakness in live stock, eggs and wool.

	No. of Price Series	1936	1937			
		Jan. 24	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	72.9	80.8	80.9	x81.9	81.4
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS -						
I. Vegetable Products	135	68.0	87.1	87.0	x88.3	86.8
(grains, fruits, etc.)						
II. Animals and Their Products	76	72.5	74.7	75.0	75.5	75.3
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.8	71.1	71.1	71.8	71.8
IV. Wood, Wood Products & Paper	49	67.1	69.6	69.6	x71.6	71.6
V. Iron and Its Products	44	87.2	91.5	91.5	x92.0	92.0
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	68.1	80.9	81.4	x83.3	82.9
VII. Non-metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.3	85.5	85.5	85.5	85.5
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products ..	77	77.3	79.0	79.0	80.8	80.8
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	65.8	86.5	86.8	87.6	85.4

x Revised.

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