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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1936-1937.
(1926=100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, fell from 84.4 for the week ending October 29 to 83.6 for the week ending November 5. Animal Products moved higher while recessions occurred in Vegetable Products, Textiles, Non-Ferrous Metals and Chemicals. A significant development of the week was the abandonment by the Brazilian Government of its attempt to control coffee prices by restriction of export.

Price changes in Vegetable Products were downward in almost every instance, and the index dropped from 87.5 to 85.1. Grains led the way with a loss of 4.5 points to 88.2, and were followed by flour, fresh fruits, vegetable oils, potatoes and cocoa. The cocoa market has been somewhat unsteady of late and the index for this group has fallen to 71.9, a decrease of approximately 10 p.c. since the first of October. Changes in Animal Products were mixed, but with advances showing the greater weight, and the index rose from 80.6 to 80.8. More restrained offerings of livestock placed this market on a firmer basis and prices regained much of the loss of the previous week. Cured meats were more expensive as were butter, milk and eggs. Supplies of top-grade eggs proved inadequate and prices were sharply higher. Moderate declines were reported for hides, fresh meats, fowl and lard. Textiles dropped from 70.5 to 70.3 when an advance in raw wool failed to offset declines in raw cotton and raw silk. Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 76.4 to 74.1 as weakness continued in copper, lead, tin and zinc. The copper price index at 77.2 was 35.8 points below the high for the year of 113.0 in the latter part of March, and it was announced that quotas for members of the Copper Cartel will be reduced 10-15 p.c. at the end of November. Many independent producers also are voluntarily restricting output. The tin index has shown a loss of 15.4 points in the past three months and stands now at 77.1. Lower quotations for glycerine moved the index for Chemicals from 81.9 to 81.7 while no changes occurred in Wood Products, Iron and Non-Metallic Minerals which remained at 76.3, 105.1 and 87.1 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products dipped from 85.9 to 84.0. Grains were mainly responsible for Field Products declining from 86.8 to 82.8, while Animal Products rose from 84.5 to 86.0 when increases in livestock, milk, eggs and wool outweighed reductions in hides and poultry.

	No. of Price Series	1936 Nov. 6	1937 Oct. 15	Oct. 22	Oct. 29	Nov. 5
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	76.8	84.7	84.7	84.4	83.6
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products ..... (grains, fruits, etc.)	135	78.3	87.0	88.0	87.5	85.1
II. Animals and Their Products	76	72.5	81.7	80.9	80.6	80.8
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.6	71.0	70.6	70.5	70.3
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	69.5	76.8	76.3	76.3	76.3
V. Iron and Its Products	44	88.2	105.4	105.1	105.1	105.1
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products	18	73.3	77.5	76.6	76.4	74.1
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	84.9	87.2	87.2	87.1	87.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	78.8	81.6	81.9	81.9	81.7
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	75.3	85.9	86.8	85.9	84.0

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