

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)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, rose from 81.6 for the week ending January 29 to 82.0 for the week ending February 5. This was the highest point reached since September 1930. Increases were shown in Vegetable Products, Wood, Non-Ferrous Metals and Chemicals, while changes in Animal Products, though numerous, were of such a nature as to leave the index unaltered. Exports of Canadian wheat were again in volume and the cash price of Manitoba No.1 Northern closed $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents higher. Exports of cattle, on the other hand, were considerably smaller and shipments to the United States fell to approximately 50 p.c. of the number reported for the previous week.

Vegetable Products rose from 87.1 to 87.8. The index for grains increased by 1.7 points to 90.1, showing a decided advance from the corresponding week of last year when the index stood at 57.3. Milled products and potatoes moved up also, while reductions were shown in fresh fruits, vegetable oils, raw sugar and cocoa. Animal Products remained at 75.4. Advances were reported in fish, fresh meats, fowl and milk products while hides, livestock, fats and eggs were easier. This was the fifth successive week of declining egg prices. Firmer quotations for pine moved the index for Wood from 72.3 to 72.7, while Non-Ferrous Metals rose from 82.5 to 83.5 when a decrease in tin failed to offset advances in copper, lead and zinc. Stimulated by buoyancy in European markets, copper again moved forward, after the slight check of last week, for a gain of 1.7 points. This left the index for this group at 89.2, or 38 p.c. above the first week in February, 1936, when it stood at 64.4. Chemicals rose from 80.7 to 81.0 largely because of firmness in organic chemicals, while Textiles, Iron and Non-Metallic Minerals remained unchanged at 71.9, 92.1 and 85.4 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 84.9 to 85.8. Grains and potatoes were mainly responsible for raising the index of Field Products from 86.5 to 88.2 while decreases in livestock, hides and eggs lowered the index for Animal Products from 82.1 to 81.9.

| | No. of Price Series | 1936 | | 1937 | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | | Feb. 6 | Jan. 15 | Jan. 22 | Jan. 29 | Feb. 5 |
| Total Index 567 Commodities | 567 | 72.5 | 81.9 | 81.7 | 81.6 | 82.0 |
| INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS - | | | | | | |
| I. Vegetable Products | 135 | 67.1 | 88.3 | 87.1 | 87.1 | 87.8 |
| (grains, fruits, etc.) | | | | | | |
| II. Animals and Their Products | 76 | 71.5 | 75.5 | 75.7 | 75.4 | 75.4 |
| III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products | 85 | 69.5 | 71.8 | 71.8 | 71.9 | 71.9 |
| IV. Wood, Wood Products & Paper | 49 | 67.4 | 71.6 | 72.3 | 72.3 | 72.7 |
| V. Iron and Its Products | 44 | 87.2 | 92.0 | 92.1 | 92.1 | 92.1 |
| VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products | 18 | 68.0 | 83.3 | 83.0 | 82.5 | 83.5 |
| VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products | 83 | 85.3 | 85.5 | 85.4 | 85.4 | 85.4 |
| VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products ... | 77 | 77.3 | 80.8 | 80.7 | 80.7 | 81.0 |
| CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS | 70 | 65.1 | 87.6 | 85.4 | 84.9 | 85.8 |

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