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

(Issued March 17, 1937)

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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, rose from 83.3 for the week ending March 5 to 83.8 for the week ending March 12. Increases were closed by seven of the eight groups comprising the index with Non-Ferrous Metals again in the van, and only Non-Hetallic Minerals continuing unchanged.

Vegetable Products advanced from 88.1 to 88.6. Grains, milled products, raw rubber and raw sugar were firmer while vegetable oils and potatoes declined. The grain index rose to 93.6 as compared with 57.6 in the corresponding week of last year. Animal Products mounted from 74.5 to 75.0. Furs and fats declined but hides, livestock, fresh meats, eggs and milk products moved up. Although not weighted sufficiently to have any marked influence upon the index, hides have been among the leaders in recent price advances. In the past year the index for this commodity has risen from 83.6 to 114.2. Buoyancy in raw cotton and raw silk moved Textiles from 73.0 to 73.3 while Wood Products advanced from 73.9 to 74.2 because of higher prices for pine and Maritime spruce. Iron climbed to 95.6 from 95.4 on an advance in rolling-mill products, while Non-Ferrous Metals soared from 94.5 to 98.6 on general strength. Silver prices which had been dormant for some time increased moderately, while zinc, lead and copper made gains of 9.1, 7.1 and 4.3 points respectively. Chemicals firmed, rising 0.1 to 80.1 but no change was shown by Non-Metallic Minerals.

Canadian Farm Products rose from 87.1 to 88.4. Field Products rose to 90.9 from 89.8 mainly because of an advance in grains, while Animal Products mounted from 82.7 to 84.2 when increases in livestock, hides, poultry and eggs exerted a greater influence than a decline in wool.

	:No. of :Price	: 1936 : 1937				
		: Mar.	: Feb. : 19 :			
Total Index 567 Commodities INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIF ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS -		72.5	83.0	83.0	83.3	83.8
L. Vegetable Products (grains, fruits, etc.)	. 135	67.0	89.1	87.4	88.1	88.6
II. Animals and Their Products.III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile		70.8	74.6	74.6	74.5	75.0
Products IV. Wood, Wood Products and Pape V. Iron and Its Products VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their	r 49	69.5 67.8 87.3	72.8 73.5 94.2	72.8 73.9 95.4	73.0 73.9 95.4	73·3 74·2 95·6
Products VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and	. 18	69.3	89.0	93.1	94.5	98.6
Their Products VIII. Chemicals and Allied Product		85.9 77.2	85.9 79.9		85.9 80.0	85.9 80.1
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	. 70	65.9	87.9	86.2	87.1	88.4

