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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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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 86.0 for the week ending April 16 to 85.8 for the week ending April 23. This was the third successive week of a decline which has attained greater proportions than any since the present rise in commodity prices began last June. Major factors in the recession were decreases in wheat and non-ferrous metals--commodities which had previously made the most rapid advances.

Vegetable Products fell from 91.5 to 90.4. Fresh fruits, milled products and vegetable oils were firmer but grains, raw rubber, raw sugar and potatoes moved lower. Grains were strong during the early part of the week but broke sharply on Thursday when a lull in export buying coupled with excellent weather reports from wheat growing areas on this continent induced liquidation. Prices in the livestock groups were mixed with weakness prevailing and a drop in butter decreased the index for milk products slightly. However, advances in fish, hides, meats and eggs were of sufficient weight to increase the index for Animal Products from 77.1 to 77.4. Higher prices for wood pulp were mainly instrumental in raising the index for Wood Products from 77.5 to 78.4 while Non-Ferrous Metals broke from 88.9 to 87.4 as prices dropped for copper, silver, tin and zinc. Lead moved against the non-ferrous trend, being the only metal in the groups to register a gain. A small decrease in coal reduced the index for Non-Metallic Minerals from 85.5 to 85.4, while Chemicals rose from 81.4 to 82.6 largely because of strength in prepared paints. Textiles and Iron remained unchanged at 73.6 and 104.2 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products fell from 91.8 to 89.7. Declines in grains and potatoes carried down the index for Field Products from 95.0 to 91.8 while Animal Products slipped from 86.4 to 86.3 when reductions in livestock proved of more importance than increases in hides and eggs.

	No. of	1936		1937		
	Price	April	April	April	April	April
	Series	24	2	9	16	23
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	72.3	86.9	86.7	86.0	85.8
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	67.3	94.6	94.4	91.5	90.4
(grains, fruits, etc.)						
II. Animals and Their Products	76	68.9	75.7	76.7	77.1	77.4
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.5	73.8	73.7	73.6	73.6
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	68.0	77.1	77.1	77.5	78.4
V. Iron and Its Products	44	87.4	102.4	102.4	104.2	104.2
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	68.9	95.6	91.5	88.9	87.4
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.5	85.4	85.4	85.5	85.4
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	77.4	81.5	81.5	81.4	82.6
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	65.4	95.1	94.8	91.8	89.7

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