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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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, advanced from 84.6 for the week ending September 10 to 84.8 for the week ending September 17. Price changes were fairly numerous and of a mixed nature. Among the commodities to show strength were flour, eggs and scrap iron, while declines occurred in furs, raw cotton and copper. Grains moved slightly higher with reductions in flax, oats and rye opposing increases in barley and wheat.

Vegetable Products rose from 85.2 to 85.7. Easier tendencies were noted in vegetable oils and raw rubber while citrus fruits, grains, milled products, rubber products, sugar, cocoa and potatoes were firmer. Flour was up 30 cents a barrel at some points which capped a rise in price of approximately 19 p.c. in the past 12 months. This compared with an increase of about 24 p.c. in the price of No.1 Manitoba Northern wheat. Animal Products advanced from 80.5 to 81.5. Higher quotations ruled for fish, cured meats, milk and eggs, while declines occurred in furs, livestock, fresh meats and fats. Increases in milk prices recently have been more than seasonal, and quotations now average 15 p.c. more than a year ago. The egg index jumped 6.3 points due to inadequate supplies at Eastern centres while changes at Western points were comparatively insignificant. For the sixth successive week Textiles continued downward and the index moved from 73.1 to 71.5. Raw cotton and cotton products led in the decline followed by miscellaneous fibres and cloth. Hosiery and knit-goods was the only class of importance to show strength. Lower prices for Maritime spruce and British Columbia fir carried the Wood index from 77.8 to 77.7 while Iron rose from 104.8 to 105.4 due to a sharp increase in the price of scrap. Exports of scrap from this Continent have been heavy and some anxiety has been expressed over a threatened shortage for home consumption. Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 84.8 to 82.8 on weakness in copper, lead, tin and zinc, while an increase in pottery raised the index for Non-Metallic Minerals from 87.1 to 87.2. Chemicals were unchanged at 81.7 as buoyancy in coal tar products was offset by a drop in explosives.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 82.6 to 84.0. Field Products rose from 81.0 to 81.1 due largely to firmness in grains, potatoes and hay, while Animal Products advanced from 85.3 to 88.9 when increases in milk and eggs outweighed declines in livestock and hides.

	No. of Price Series	1936 Sept. 18	1937 Aug. 27	1937 Sept. 3	1937 Sept. 10	1937 Sept. 17
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	76.2	84.8	84.6	84.6	84.8
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products ..... (grains, fruits, etc.)	135	77.0	85.4	84.8	85.2	85.7
II. Animals and Their Products	76	72.6	80.8	81.1	80.5	81.5
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.7	73.5	73.3	73.1	71.5
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	68.8	77.8	77.8	77.8	77.7
V. Iron and Its Products	44	88.2	104.8	104.8	104.8	105.4
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products.	18	70.5	84.9	84.4	84.8	82.8
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.4	87.1	87.1	87.1	87.2
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	78.5	81.7	81.7	81.7	81.7
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	73.4	82.1	81.8	82.6	84.0