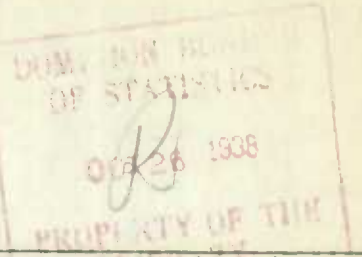


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

(Issued October 25, 1938)



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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1937-1938.  
(1926=100)

Numerous reductions in wholesale commodity prices changed the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index from 74.3 for the week ending October 14 to 74.0 for the week ending October 21. This was the seventh successive week in which the index moved narrowly, within the limits of 0.5 points, and at a level approximately 12 p.c. below the corresponding period of last year. Recessions predominated in six of the eight major groups included in the index, while Wood advanced and Chemicals remained unchanged.

In the Vegetable group, potatoes and vegetable oils were firm and the grain index moved higher, as a rise in wheat outweighed decreases in the coarser grains, but recessions in bread, raw rubber, raw sugar, cocoa and coffee were sufficient to lower the index from 61.2 to 60.7. Animal Products declined from 74.9 to 74.3. Fish, hides and eggs were buoyant, while livestock, meats and lard lost ground. Both livestock and meats were cheaper than in October of last year, and the index for fresh meats at 76.7 compared with 83.7 for the corresponding week in 1937. Declines in raw cotton and cloth lowered the index for Textiles from 66.7 to 66.4, but increases in pulp advanced the index for Wood from 77.1 to 77.2. Iron eased from 98.2 to 98.1, largely because of reductions in steel sheets, while Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 73.6 to 73.2 when decreases in copper, lead and zinc outweighed a rise in tin. Coal prices were firm, but lower quotations for gasoline and plaster reduced the index for Non-Metallic Minerals from 86.9 to 86.5. Chemicals remained at 79.4 when no changes of importance occurred.

Canadian Farm Products dropped from 63.9 to 63.7. Field Products moved from 53.7 to 53.6 as an increase in potatoes failed to offset declines in grains, onions and straw, while Animal Products fell from 81.1 to 80.7 as advances in hides, eggs and milk proved of less weight than a reduction in livestock.

	; No. of ; Price ; Series	1937					1938	
		1937		1938			1938	
		Oct. 22	Sept. 30	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 21	
Total Index 567 Commodities .....	567	84.7	74.5	74.2	74.3	74.0		
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS								
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	88.0	62.1	60.9	61.2	60.7		
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	80.9	75.3	75.1	74.9	74.3		
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	70.6	66.7	66.9	66.7	66.4		
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	49	76.3	77.0	77.1	77.1	77.2		
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	105.1	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.1		
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	76.6	71.3	72.0	73.6	73.2		
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	87.2	86.9	86.9	86.9	86.5		
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products .....	77	81.9	79.4	79.4	79.4	79.4		
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	86.8	63.7	63.5	63.9	63.7		

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