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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, 1937-1938  
(1926=100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of wholesale commodity prices rose from 73.5 for the week ending November 11 to 73.6 for the week ending November 18. Advances were made by Vegetable Products and Iron, while Animal Products, Wood, Non-Ferrous Metals and Non-Metallic Minerals declined. A noteworthy event of the week was the signing of trade agreements between Great Britain, the United States and Canada which become effective at the new year.

Vegetable Products mounted from 59.6 to 60.4. Grains, flour, vegetable oils, potatoes and raw sugar moved higher, while coffee, cocoa, tobacco and raw rubber weakened. Raw sugar prices have hardened in the past month and the index has risen from 39.6 for the week of October 21 to 42.3 for the week under review. Animal Products fell from 73.6 to 73.4. Livestock, with the exception of hogs, was firmer and eggs and meats advanced as well, while declines were noted in hides, butter, cheese and lard. Exports of cattle to the United States were in good volume although, of late, stock yard receipts have been somewhat below those of a year ago. Textiles remained at 66.5, when strength in raw cotton and raw silk was offset by decreases in worsted cloth yarns and linen huck towelling. Wood fell from 77.2 to 76.7, largely because of lower prices for paper, pulp, British Columbia fir and furniture, while Iron rose from 98.1 to 98.2 on a slight increase in steel plates. Reductions in copper, lead and zinc moved the index for Non-Ferrous Metals from 73.3 to 72.5, and Non-Metallic Minerals eased from 86.4 to 86.3 as recessions in plaster and Portland cement proved of more importance than an increase in coal. Chemicals were unchanged at 79.4.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 64.3 to 64.5. Field Products remained at 53.9, as increases in grains and potatoes were counteracted by reductions in hay and straw, but Animal Products changed from 81.6 to 82.3 when advances in livestock and eggs outweighed a decrease in hides.

|   | : No. of :<br>: Price :<br>: Series : | : 1937 :         |                  | : 1938 :        |                  |                  |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
|   |                                       | Nov. :<br>: 19 : | Oct. :<br>: 28 : | Nov. :<br>: 4 : | Nov. :<br>: 11 : | Nov. :<br>: 18 : |
| Total Index 567 Commodities .....   | 567                                   | 83.5             | 73.9             | 73.6            | 73.5             | 73.6             |
| INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED<br>ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS |                                       |                  |                  |                 |                  |                  |
| I. Vegetable Products .....   | 135                                   | 85.5             | 60.4             | 59.6            | 59.6             | 60.4             |
| II. Animals and Their Products .....  | 76                                    | 80.8             | 74.1             | 73.9            | 73.6             | 73.4             |
| III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile<br>Products .....                                     | 85                                    | 69.5             | 66.6             | 66.4            | 66.5             | 66.5             |
| IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....   | 49                                    | 76.1             | 77.2             | 77.2            | 77.2             | 76.7             |
| V. Iron and Its Products .....  | 44                                    | 105.1            | 98.1             | 98.1            | 98.1             | 98.2             |
| VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their<br>Products .....                                      | 18                                    | 73.0             | 73.8             | 72.9            | 73.3             | 72.5             |
| VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their<br>Products .....                                  | 83                                    | 87.2             | 86.3             | 86.4            | 86.4             | 86.3             |
| VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products .....   | 77                                    | 81.3             | 79.5             | 79.5            | 79.4             | 79.4             |
| CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....  | 70                                    | 85.1             | 63.8             | 64.1            | 64.3             | 64.5             |

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