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

(Issued December 20, 1938)

Dominion Statistician:

Prices Statistician:

Chief, Internal Trade Branch:

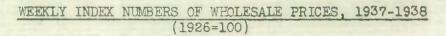
R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)

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Widely scattered increases in wholesale commodity prices advanced the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index from 73.3 for the week ending December 9 to 73.4 for the week ending December 16. Changes occurred in six of the eight major groups comprising the index and Vegetable Products, Non-Ferrous Metals and Non-Metallic Minerals moved higher, while Animal Products, Wood and Chemicals declined.

Vegetable Products rose from 60.1 to 60.2 as small increases were shown in grains, raw rubber, raw sugar and potatoes. Animal Products fell from 73.1 to 72.9 as recessions in fish, livestock, cured meats, lard and eggs outweighed advances in furs, hides, fresh meats and cheese. Cheese prices have weakened during the past three months and the Bureau's average has dropped from 16.79 cents per pound for the first week in October to 14.14 cents per pound for the week under review, due to a decrease in quotations for new cheese. The Textile index remained at 66.3, as advances in raw cotton and raw silk offset a decline in raw wool, but Wood Products slipped from 76.4 to 76.3, when an increase in the price of pulp was outweighed by reductions in British Columbia fir and furniture. Non-ferrous metals showed general strength and the index for this group rose from 71.2 to 71.7, while Non-Metallic Minerals mounted from 86.2 to 86.3, when an advance in salt proved of greater consequence than a small decrease in coal. Paint materials firmed, but lower quotations for castor oil and industrial gases moved the index for Chemicals from 79.3 to 79.2. Iron was unchanged at 98.1.

Canadian Farm Products advanced from 64.4 to 64.5. Strength in grains and potatoes was largely responsible for raising the index for Field Products from 53.6 to 53.7. Animal Products declined from 82.6 to 82.5 as decreases in livestock, eggs and wool exerted a greater influence than a rise in hides.

	: Price	: 1937 : Dec. :	Nov.		: Dec.	: Dec.
	6	: 17 :	25	: 2	: 9	: 16
Total Index 567 Commodities	. 567	82.8	73.5	73.4	73.3	73.4
MATERIALS  1. Vegetable Products	. 135	85.4	60.1	60.0	60.1	60.2
II. Animals and Their Products		78.1	73.3	73.2	73.1	72.9
III. Fibres. Textiles & Textile Products.		68.9	66.4	66.4	66.3	66.3
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper		75.8	76.4	76.4	76.4	76.3
V. Iron and Its Products		104.1	98.2	98.2	98.1	98.1
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products .		72.1	72.3	71.4	71.2	71.7
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their						
Products	. 83	87.0	86.3	86.2	86.2	86.3
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products		80.8	79.4	79.3	79.3	79.2
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	. 70	84.5	64.4	64.5	64.4	64.5



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