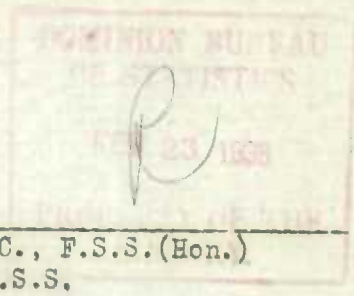


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

(Issued February 22, 1938)



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

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices continued at 83.6 for the week ending February 18. Decreases occurred in Vegetable Products, Iron and Chemicals while advances were made by Animal Products and Non-Ferrous Metals. The raw wool index touched the lowest point since November 1935, but butter prices have not been so high since early in 1930.

Vegetable Products fell from 87.2 to 86.7. Grains, milled products, vegetable oils, coffee and cocoa moved lower, while rubber and sugar were buoyant. A gain of 0.8 points was made in the week by the raw sugar index which rose from 42.1 to 42.9 after having declined from 45.9 since the first week in January. Animal Products increased from 77.2 to 78.2 as advances in hides, hogs, cured meats, butter and eggs outweighed recessions in leather, fresh meats and lard. Butter averaged 35.7 cents per pound as compared with 27.0 cents for a year ago, and the egg index moved up from 60.0 to 66.7 during the week to show an increase of 12.4 points for the year. Textiles remained at 68.6 when advances in raw cotton and raw silk offset declines in raw wool, cloth and worsted cloth yarns, while Iron slipped from 103.9 to 103.8 when galvanized steel sheets were quoted at slightly easier prices. Base metals strengthened to move the index for Non-Ferrous Metals from 70.2 to 71.3. Tin prices were still considerably below those of a year ago when the tin index stood at 83.1 as compared with 67.4 for the week under review. However, on Friday the 18th the International Tin Committee announced a further cut in the export quota from 70 p.c. to 55 p.c. for the second quarter. Chemicals declined from 80.6 to 79.9 largely because of decreases in benzol, paint materials and commercial ether, but Wood and Non-Metallic Minerals were unchanged at 79.7 and 87.1 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products declined from 85.2 to 85.0. Field Products dropped from 88.0 to 86.9 when weakness in grains and potatoes were of greater consequence than a rise in hay, while Animal Products rose from 80.5 to 81.7 largely due to strength in livestock, hides, butter and eggs.

	: No. of :	: 1937 :		: 1938 :		
		: Price :	: Jan. :	: Feb. :	: Feb. :	: Feb. :
	: Series :	: 19 :	: 28 :	: 4 :	: 11 :	: 18 :
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	83.0	83.6	x83.5	83.6	83.6
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	89.1	87.1	87.2	87.2	86.7
II. Animals and Their Products	76	74.6	77.4	76.8	77.2	78.2
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	72.8	68.5	68.5	68.6	68.6
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	73.5	79.7	79.7	79.7	79.7
V. Iron and Its Products	44	94.2	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.8
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	89.0	71.2	70.9	70.2	71.3
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.9	87.1	87.1	87.1	87.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	79.9	x80.6	x80.6	x80.6	79.9
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	87.9	85.5	85.4	85.2	85.0

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