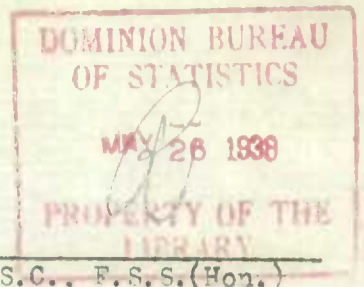


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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

In the sixth week of uninterrupted decline the Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale commodity prices fell from 80.8 for the week ending May 13 to 80.3 for the week ending May 20. Recessions predominated in Vegetable Products, Wood, Iron and Non-Ferrous Metals, while Non-Metallic Minerals advanced. Scrap metal and copper prices were sharply lower, with the index for tin touching the lowest point since 1933.

Vegetable Products decreased from 79.8 to 79.0. Grains, milled products, raw rubber, sugar and cocoa were among the principal commodities to show reductions. The grain index at 78.9 compared with 95.0 for a year ago and was on a level with the closing weeks in 1936. Changes in Animal Products showed greater variety. Advances occurred in shoes, livestock, meats and eggs but these were offset by declines in milk and butter, and the index remained at 77.7. Wood Products moved from 78.0 to 77.1 as weakness in spruce and pulp proved of greater importance than an increase in newsprint. The Iron Products index fell from 102.4 to 101.5, largely because of a slump in scrap. Quotations for scrap metals were approximately 15 p.c. below those of a month ago. Declines in copper, tin, lead and zinc reduced the index for Non-Ferrous Metals from 69.6 to 68.0. Non-Metallic Minerals rose from 86.6 to 87.1 as higher prices obtained for coal. Textiles and Chemicals were unchanged at 67.7 and 80.4, respectively.

Canadian Farm Products moved from 78.1 to 77.5. Field Products fell from 75.5 to 74.8 as a drop in grains outweighed advances in potatoes and hay. Animal Products declined from 82.4 to 82.1 when increases in livestock and eggs proved of less importance than a reduction in milk.

	No. of	1938						
		May 21	April 15	April 22	April 29	May 6	May 13	May 20
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	85.4	83.0	82.4	81.5	81.0	80.8	80.3
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT								
MATERIALS								
I. Vegetable Products	135	89.6	85.1	83.8	81.6	80.2	79.8	79.0
II. Animals and Their Products	76	76.2	80.0	79.0	78.0	77.6	77.7	77.7
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	73.6	67.8	67.8	67.7	67.7	67.7	67.7
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper ...	49	78.5	78.9	78.2	78.2	78.0	78.0	77.1
V. Iron and Its Products	44	103.8	102.5	102.5	102.5	102.5	102.4	101.5
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	86.2	71.0	70.9	70.2	69.9	69.6	68.0
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	86.6	86.7	86.7	86.6	86.6	86.6	87.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products ...	77	81.9	80.4	80.4	80.4	80.4	80.4	80.4
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	88.7	83.6	82.5	79.9	78.5	78.1	77.5

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