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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)

Continued weakness in wholesale commodity prices reduced the Dominion Bureau of Statistics weekly index from 75.8 for the week ending August 19 to 75.1 for the week ending August 26. This was the lowest level reached in over two years and was 9.7 points below the corresponding week of last year.

Vegetable Products dropped from 66.1 to 64.3. Wheat at Winnipeg hit a four year low during the week and flour, bread and potatoes were down as well. Raw rubber, on the other hand, rose from 34.7 to 35.7, the highest point reached so far this year and green coffee beans recovered most of the previous weeks' loss. Animal Products fell from 76.2 to 75.6. Hides and cheese moved up but meats, butter, lard, eggs and livestock declined. The livestock index at 86.2 showed a fall of 10.1 points from the season's peak of 96.3 for the week of June 25, and quotations for bacon hogs indicated a reduction in price of over 25 p.c. in the past five weeks. Textiles eased from 67.1 to 67.0 when a fractional decrease in raw cotton outweighed a small increase in raw silk, while Wood Products receded from 77.3 to 77.1 largely because of weakness in pulp. Non-Ferrous Metals opposed the general downward movement and strength in copper, lead, tin, and zinc advanced this index from 69.4 to 70.0. Iron, Non-Metallic Minerals and Chemicals were unchanged at 98.0, 86.7 and 79.3 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products declined from 63.8 to 63.2. Field Products fell from 54.0 to 53.7 influenced by weakness in grains and potatoes, while Animal Products dropped from 80.1 to 79.2 when reductions in livestock and eggs proved of more consequence than an increase in hides.

	No.of Price Series	1937	1938			
		Aug. 27	Aug. 5	Aug.	Aug. 19	Aug. 26
Total Index 567 Commodities INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIAL		84.8	77.2	76.6	75.8	75.1
I. Vegetable Products	135	85.4	70.5	69.1	66.1	64.3
II. Animals and Their Products III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile	76	80.8	77.6	76.2	76.2	75.6
Products	85	73.5	67.1	67.0	67.1	67.0
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	77.8	76.6	76.6	77.3	77.1
V. Iron and Its Products VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their	44	104.8	97.8	97.7	98.0	98.0
Products VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and	18	84.9	70.7	70.3	69.4	70.0
Their Products	83	87.1	86.6	86.6	86.7	86.7
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	81.7	79.4	79.4	79.3	79.3
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	82.1	66.7	64.8	63,8	63.2

