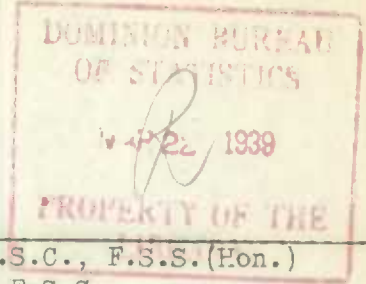


Published by Authority of the Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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



(Issued March 21, 1939)

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Price \$1.00 per year

WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1938-1939  
(1926=100)

After a moderate rise of 0.5 in the preceding four weeks, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index of 30 Industrial Material Prices reacted and fell from 64.7 for the week ending March 10 to 64.5 for the week ending March 17. No change occurred in the Stable group, which remained at 87.8, but the Sensitive group, comprising manufacturing and food materials, declined from 52.8 to 52.6. Influenced by lower quotations for raw rubber, raw silk and some of the outstanding non-ferrous metals, the Manufacturing Materials index eased from 51.3 to 51.2, while the Food Materials index dropped from 56.8 to 56.2, as a slight increase in raw sugar failed to offset lower prices for wheat, steers and hogs.

The Bureau's index of wholesale commodity prices, which includes 567 items, declined also, moving 0.1 lower to 73.1. This was just 10.0 below the corresponding week of last year. Vegetable Products dipped from 60.3 to 60.1, as decreases were shown by grains, raw rubber and raw coffee, while Animal Products rose from 73.6 to 73.7, when strength in fish, milk products and eggs outweighed recessions in hides, meats and lard. Decreases in cotton fabrics and knit goods were largely responsible for lowering the index for Textiles from 66.2 to 65.9, while moderate reductions in a number of the non-ferrous metals moved the index for this group from 70.1 to 70.0. Changes in the remaining four groups were insignificant.

Canadian Farm Products remained at 65.0. Field Products continued at 54.8, as advances in potatoes, onions and hay counteracted weakness in grains, but Animal Products mounted from 82.0 to 82.2, when increases in livestock, poultry and eggs proved of more importance than a reduction in hides.

	: No. of : Price : Series	: 1938 : 1939				
		: Mar. :		: Mar. : Mar. :		
		: 18	: 24	: 3	: 10	: 17
INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS PRICES .....	30	68.8	64.5	64.6	64.7	64.5
Stable .....	12	93.8	87.8	87.8	87.8	87.8
Sensitive .....	18	56.1	52.6	52.6	52.8	52.6
Manufacturing .....	13	50.4	50.8	51.1	51.3	51.2
Food .....	5	71.9	57.4	56.8	56.8	56.2
Total Index 567 Commodities .....	567	83.1	73.3	73.2	73.2	73.1
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	84.6	60.5	60.4	60.3	60.1
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	79.2	74.1	73.6	73.6	73.7
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	68.5	65.9	65.9	66.2	65.9
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper ...	49	79.3	76.1	76.1	76.1	76.1
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	103.7	97.4	97.4	97.4	97.4
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	71.9	69.6	69.7	70.1	70.0
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	87.0	85.7	85.7	85.7	85.7
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products ...	77	80.4	78.3	78.3	78.3	78.3
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	82.3	65.1	64.9	65.0	65.0

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