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

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Dominion Statistician: Chief, Internal Trade Branch:

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

Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.

Prices Statistician:

H. F. Greenway, M.A.

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

The past week was a momentus one in World affairs and price movements on commodity markets were of an uncertain pattern. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index of Industrial Material Prices fell from 64.9 for the week ending March 24 to 64.7 for the week ending March 31. The Stable group remained unchanged at 87.8, while the Sensitive group declined from 53.0 to 52.7. Manufacturing Materials eased from 51.4 to 51.3, influenced by lower prices for raw cotton, raw silk, lead and zinc, while Food Materials moved from 57.3 to 56.7 when reductions in wheat, steers and hogs proved of more importance than an increase in raw sugar.

The index of General Wholesale Commodity Prices, on the other hand, rose from 73.2 to 73.3. Vegetable and Wood Products strengthened, while reductions predominated in Animal Products, Textiles, Non-Ferrous Metals and Non-Metallic Minerals. Among the more important commodities to show increases were raw rubber, raw sugar, potatoes, copper and British Columbia forest products, but grains, livestock, meats, butter, cheese and gasoline moved lower.

Canadian Farm Products advanced from 65.3 to 65.4. Field Products were buoyant, rising from 55.2 to 55.6 due to strength in potatoes and onions, but Animal Products declined from 82.2 to 81.7, when reductions in livestock and hides outweighted an increase in eggs.

	Price	: 1938 :	100	1939		
The state of the s		April 2		Mar. :		: Mar.
INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS PRICES	30	67.7	64.7	64.5	64.9	64.7
Stable	12	93.8	87.8	87.8	87.8	87.8
Sensitive	18	54.6	52.8	52.6	53.0	52.7
Manufacturing	13	48.9	51.3	51.2	51.4	51.3
Food	5	72.7	56.8	56.2	57.3	56.7
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES	567	86.9	73.2	73.1	73.2	73.3
Chief Component Groups						
I. Vegetable Products	135	94.6	60.3	60.1	60.8	61.1
II. Animals and Their Products III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile	76	75.7	73.6	73.7	73.4	73.0
Products	85	73.8	66.2	65.9	65.8	65.7
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	77.1	76.1	76.1	76.0	76.2
Iron and Its Products	44	102.4	97.4	97.4	97.4	97.4
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their						
Products	18	95.6	70.1	70.0	70.4	70.3
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their						
Products	83	85.4	85.7	85.7	85.2	85.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	81.5	78.3	78.3	77.9	77.9
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	95.1	65.0	65.0	65.3	65.4

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