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INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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Price \$1.00 per year

WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1939-1940.

Following eleven weeks of slow advance, in which an increase of 1.5 points was shown, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index, on the base 1926=100, receded slightly, changing from 84.3 for the week ending December 13 to 84.2 for the week ending December 20. Of the eight major groups comprising the index, Vegetable Products, alone, moved lower, while Animal Products, Textiles and Chemicals advanced. Grains reacted slightly, but livestock prices were firm, as reduced offerings offset to a large extent the usual seasonal slackening in demand. Butter continued to rise, while lower quotations ruled for cheese and eggs.

Industrial Material prices eased also, and the Bureau's index, on the base August 1939-100, dropped from 122.7 to 122.3. The Stable price group decreased from 117.9 to 117.8, influenced by lower quotations for crude oil, and the Sensitive price series fell from 126.0 to 125.3, as both Manufacturing and Food Materials declined. The former moved from 124.7 to 123.9, when an increase in beef hides failed to offset reductions in raw rubber and Manila hemp. Food Materials decreased from 129.4 to 129.0, as declines in wheat and oats outweighed advances in steers and hogs.

Canadian Farm Products receded from 67.4 to 67.0. Field Products fell from 52.8 to 52.3, when declines in grains and hay proved of more importance than increases in potatoes and onions. Animal Products decreased from 91.8 to 91.6, as reduction in eggs exerted a greater influence than advances in livestock and milk.

Percentage Changes in Principal Commodities Between the Weeks of December 13 and December 20.

Increases: budger 5.7. thocolate and products 5.6, green coffee beans 1.7, potatoes 1.6, steers 1.0, hogs 0.6.

Decreases: Manila hemp 16.7, eggs 4.7, oats 3.0, fish 2.7, wheat 1.4, cheese 1.3, oils and fats 1.1.

	*	No. of	:	1939: 1940 :				1939: 1940						
		Price Series		Dec.:	De 13		Dec.:	De 22			Dec.			
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES Stable		30 12 18 13		79.2	-	6=100 .2 .2 .6			ugust 1 .1 122 .3 117 .0 126 .4 121	93	9=100)			
	:	No. of	**											
		Price Series		Dec. 22	:	Nov.	: D	ec.	Dec.	:	Dec. 20			
	-						(1926=100)							
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES Chief Component Groups		567		82.1		84.1	84	.1	84.3		84.2			
I. Vegetable Products II. Animals and Their Products III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile		135 76		72.9		71.2	70		70.9 83.8		70.7			
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper V. Iron and Its Products		85 49 44		82.0 85.2 102.6		83.9 91.7 106.1	84 91 106	.7	84.1 91.6 106.1		84.3 91.6 106.1			
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products		18		76.3		77.7	77	• 7	77.7		77-7			
Products		83 77		86.7		90.8	90		90.8		90.8			
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS		70		70.3		67.2			67.4		67.0			



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