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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1939-1940

Recessions outweighed advances in Industrial Material prices during the week ending March 22, and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index fell from 123.4, for the week ending March 15, to 122.7. All three of the main groups moved lower. The Stable Materials index was affected by reductions in steel sheets and eased from 111.9 to 111.8, while Manufacturing Materials dropped from 129.5 to 128.2, because of declines in raw rubber, hides, raw silk and tin ingots. When increases in wheat and steers failed to offset weakness in oats and hogs, Food Materials fell from 137.8 to 137.1

The General Wholesale Commodity index rose from 83.1 to 83.2. Price movements have been moderate so far this year, and this index has remained within the limits of 82.2 and 83.2. Textiles, Wood Products and Chemicals moved higher, but Iron and Non-Ferrous Metals receded. Among the more important commodities to advance were grains, butter, cotton fabrics, cloth, fir and cedar, while lower quotations ruled for cocoa, cheese, raw silk, copper and tin.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 71.0 to 71.2. Bolstered by grains, potatoes and hay, Field Products rose from 62.6 to 62.9 but Animal Products remained at 85.1, as increases in milk and eggs were counterbalanced by declines in livestock and hides.

	No. of Price Series	1939	1940		1939	1940	
		Mar. 24	Mar. 15	Mar. 22	Mar. 24	Mar. 15	Mar. 22
			(1926=100)		(August 1939=100)		
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES	30	64.9	80.1	79.7	99.7	123.4	122.7
Stable	12	87.8	98.9	98.8	99.3	111.9	111.8
Sensitive	18	53.0	69.6	69.0	100.0	131.8	130.6
Manufacturing	13	51.4	68.5	67.8	96.8	129.5	128.2
Food	5	57.3	72.5	72.1	108.9	137.8	137.1

	No. of Price Series	1939	1940			
		Mar. 24	Mar. 1	Mar. 8	Mar. 15	Mar. 22
			(1926=100)			
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES	567	73.2	82.8	83.1	83.1	83.2
Chief Component Groups						
I. Vegetable Products	135	60.8	74.3	75.0	74.9	74.9
II. Animals and Their Products	76	73.4	79.7	80.2	80.0	80.0
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	65.8	82.6	82.6	82.6	83.5
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	76.0	86.6	86.6	86.6	87.0
V. Iron and Its Products	44	97.4	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.5
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	70.4	76.4	76.4	76.4	76.3
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	77.9	87.3	87.3	87.3	87.4
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	65.3	70.9	71.3	71.0	71.2

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