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INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1940-1941

Reacting slightly after a steady advance of ten weeks, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of 567 commodities (1926=100) declined from 93.7 for the week ending October 10 to 93.6 for the week ending October 17th. Price movements were mixed, and in the eight major groups comprising the index increases were shown for Textiles, Wood, Non-Metallic Minerals and Chemicals, while Vegetable Products and Animal Products moved lower. Among the more important commodities to advance were hay, potatoes, cotton fabrics, fish, milk, coal and hogs, whereas reductions occurred in wheat, oats, butter, raw cotton, steers, fresh meats, flour and milled products.

Industrial Material Prices, on the base August 1939=100, fell from 141.4 to 140.7. Stable Materials remained at 124.7, but the Sensitive price series, including Manufacturing and Food Materials, dropped from 153.8 to 152.6. Lower prices for raw rubber and raw cotton depressed the former from 153.8 to 153.1, while Food Materials receded from 153.6 to 150.8, on general weakness in grains and livestock.

Canadian Farm Products declined from 74.4 to 73.7. Easier quotations for grains outweighed advances in potatoes, onions and hay to change the index for Field Products from 59.2 to 57.7. Animal Products rose from 99.9 to 100.4, as an increase in milk proved of more importance than declines in livestock and eggs.

Percentage Changes in Principal Commodities Between the
Weeks of October 10 and 17.

Increases: hay 6.6, potatoes 6.2, cotton fabrics 2.4, fish 1.8, milk 1.4,
coal 0.5, hogs 0.4, cured meats 0.4.

Decreases: wheat 4.2, butter 3.2, oats 2.9, raw cotton 2.6, raw rubber 2.0,
vegetable oils 1.5, steers 0.7, fresh meats 0.7, flour and
milled products 0.6.

	No. of	1940	1941	1940	1941
	Price	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.
	Series:	18	10	17	18

		(1926=100)			(August 1939=100)		
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES	30	78.5	91.7	91.2	121.7	141.4	140.7
Stable	12	104.3	110.6	110.6	118.0	124.7	124.7
Sensitive	18	65.6	80.9	80.3	124.2	153.8	152.6
Manufacturing	13	64.5	81.0	80.6	121.9	153.8	153.1
Food	5	68.5	80.8	79.3	130.1	153.6	150.8

	No. of	1940	1941	1940	1941
	Price	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Oct.
	Series:	18	26	3	10

		(1926=100)				
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES	567	83.3	92.8	93.3	93.7	93.6
Chief Component Groups:						
I. Vegetable Products	135	69.5	79.0	80.2	80.4	79.8
II. Animals and Their Products	76	80.5	98.1	98.4	100.6	100.5
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	83.8	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.7
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	91.5	98.2	98.3	98.3	98.4
V. Iron and Its Products	44	106.1	111.6	111.6	111.6	111.6
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	77.7	78.2	78.2	78.2	78.2
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	90.9	98.1	98.9	98.9	99.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	90.3	101.9	102.0	101.7	102.4
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	64.6	72.9	74.3	74.4	73.7

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