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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1940-1941

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics weighted index of 567 wholesale commodities rose from 93.6 for the week ending October 24 to 93.7 for the week ending October 31. Price changes were comparatively few. Two of the eight major groups comprising the index, i.e., Animal Products and Wood, advanced, but the remaining six groups were unchanged. Among the more important commodities to move higher were vegetable oils, cheese, eggs, cured meats and furniture, while green coffee beans, potatoes, wheat, steers, fresh meats and raw cotton declined.

Industrial material prices, on the other hand, continued to show weakness for the third successive week, and this index, on the base August 1939=100, fell from 140.4 to 140.1. The Stable group was unchanged at 124.7, but the Sensitive price series, including Manufacturing and Food Materials, dropped from 152.0 to 151.4. Easier prices for rosin and raw cotton were responsible for lowering Manufacturing Materials from 152.8 to 152.1, while Food Materials declined from 149.5 to 149.4, when an increase in hogs failed to offset recessions in wheat and steers.

Canadian Farm Products moved from 73.7 to 73.4. This compared with 65.0 for the corresponding week of 1940, and 64.4 for the week ending October 27, 1939. Field Products decreased 0.6 to 56.5, as declines in grains, potatoes and onions proved of more consequence than a rise in hay. Animal Products advanced from 101.5 to 101.7, when an increase in eggs outweighed reductions in livestock and wool.

Percentage Changes in Principal Commodities Between
the Weeks of October 24 and 31

- Increases: cheese 3.9, eggs 2.3, furniture 1.0, cured meats 0.5, vegetable oils 0.4.
- Decreases: green coffee beans 7.4, potatoes 5.1, raw wool 1.8, steers 0.5, wheat 0.4, cotton 0.2.

	: No. of : : Price : : Series :	: 1940 :		: 1941 :		: 1940 :		: 1941 :	
		Nov.	Oct.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Oct.		
		1	24	31	1	24	31		
		(1926=100)			(August 1939=100)				
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES	30	78.6	91.0	90.8	121.8	140.4	140.1		
Stable	12	104.3	110.6	110.6	118.0	124.7	124.7		
Sensitive	18	65.7	79.9	79.7	124.4	152.0	151.4		
Manufacturing	13	64.8	80.5	80.1	122.5	152.8	152.1		
Food	5	68.1	78.6	78.5	129.5	149.5	149.4		

	: No. of : : Price : : Series :	: 1940 :		: 1941 :		: 1940 :		: 1941 :	
		Nov.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.			
		1	10	17	24	31			
		(1926=100)			(1926=100)				
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES	567	83.6	*93.6	*93.5	*93.6		93.7		
Chief Component Groups:									
I. Vegetable Products	135	70.0	80.4	79.8	79.8		79.8		
II. Animals and Their Products	76	81.0	100.6	100.5	101.0		101.6		
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	83.8	96.3	96.7	96.8		96.8		
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	91.6	98.3	98.4	98.2		98.3		
V. Iron and Its Products	44	106.1	111.6	111.6	111.7		111.7		
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	90.8	*98.5	*98.8	*98.8		98.8		
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	90.3	101.7	102.4	103.4		103.4		
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	65.0	74.4	73.7	73.7		73.4		

* Revised.

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