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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1940-1941

With continued strength featuring wholesale commodity prices, the Bureau's index, on the base 1926=100, advanced from 87.7 for the week ending May 9 to 88.0 for the week ending May 16. All of the major groups moved higher with the exception of Wood Products. Outstanding among the commodities to score gains were vegetable oils, raw cotton, oats, fresh meats, raw rubber and steel billets, while worsted woollen cloth yarns, potatoes, butter, eggs and lard declined.

Industrial Material prices, on the base August 1939=100, rose from 130.8 to 132.3. Stable Materials remained at 123.0, but the Sensitive price series, including Manufacturing and Food Materials, mounted from 136.2 to 138.8. Firmer quotations obtained for raw rubber, linseed oil, raw cotton, raw silk and Manila hemp, which increased the index for Manufacturing Materials from 135.4 to 138.6. Food Materials rose from 138.3 to 139.3, supported by oats, steers and hogs.

Canadian Farm Products moved from 69.4 to 69.7. Field Products advanced from 55.6 to 55.7, as increases in grains and hay outweighed a reduction in potatoes, while Animal Products rose from 92.4 to 93.1, when a decline in milk proved of less importance than gains in livestock, hides and poultry.

Percentage Changes in Principal Commodities Between the Weeks of May 9 and 16.

Increases: vegetable oils 5.6, raw cotton 4.7, hogs 2.7, raw silk 3.1, raw rubber 2.4, cotton fabrics 1.6, steers 1.4, steel billets 1.3, fresh meats 1.2, oats 1.2.

Decreases: worsted cloth yarns 2.8, potatoes 2.6, raw coffee beans 2.2, lard 1.4, eggs 0.9, butter 0.7

	No. of	1940		1941			
		Price	Series	Price	Series		
		May	17	May	16		
			9		9		
					16		
		(1926=100)		(August 1939=100)			
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES .....	30	79.0	x84.8	85.8	122.4	x130.8	132.3
Stable .....	12	99.5	x109.1	109.1	112.5	x123.0	123.0
Sensitive .....	18	68.4	71.7	73.0	129.4	136.2	138.8
Manufacturing .....	13	68.7	71.3	73.0	129.9	135.4	138.6
Food .....	5	67.4	72.7	73.2	128.1	138.3	139.3
	No. of	1940		1941			
	Price	May	April	May	May	May	
	Series	17	25	2	9	16	
		(1926=100)		(1926=100)			
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES .....	567	81.9	86.4	x87.5	x87.7	88.0	
Chief Component Groups							
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	72.3	75.7	75.6	76.1	76.4	
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	76.0	84.2	84.5	84.5	85.0	
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	83.3	85.6	86.4	86.8	87.9	
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	49	87.7	92.5	x94.8	x94.8	94.8	
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	102.3	107.5	x110.1	x110.1	110.2	
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	76.5	77.7	x77.9	x77.9	78.1	
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	88.7	91.7	x94.3	x94.3	94.5	
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products .....	77	85.4	95.5	x97.0	x97.0	98.3	
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	68.3	69.4	69.2	69.4	69.7	

x Revised after special inquiries concerning the extension of the sales tax to building materials.

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