

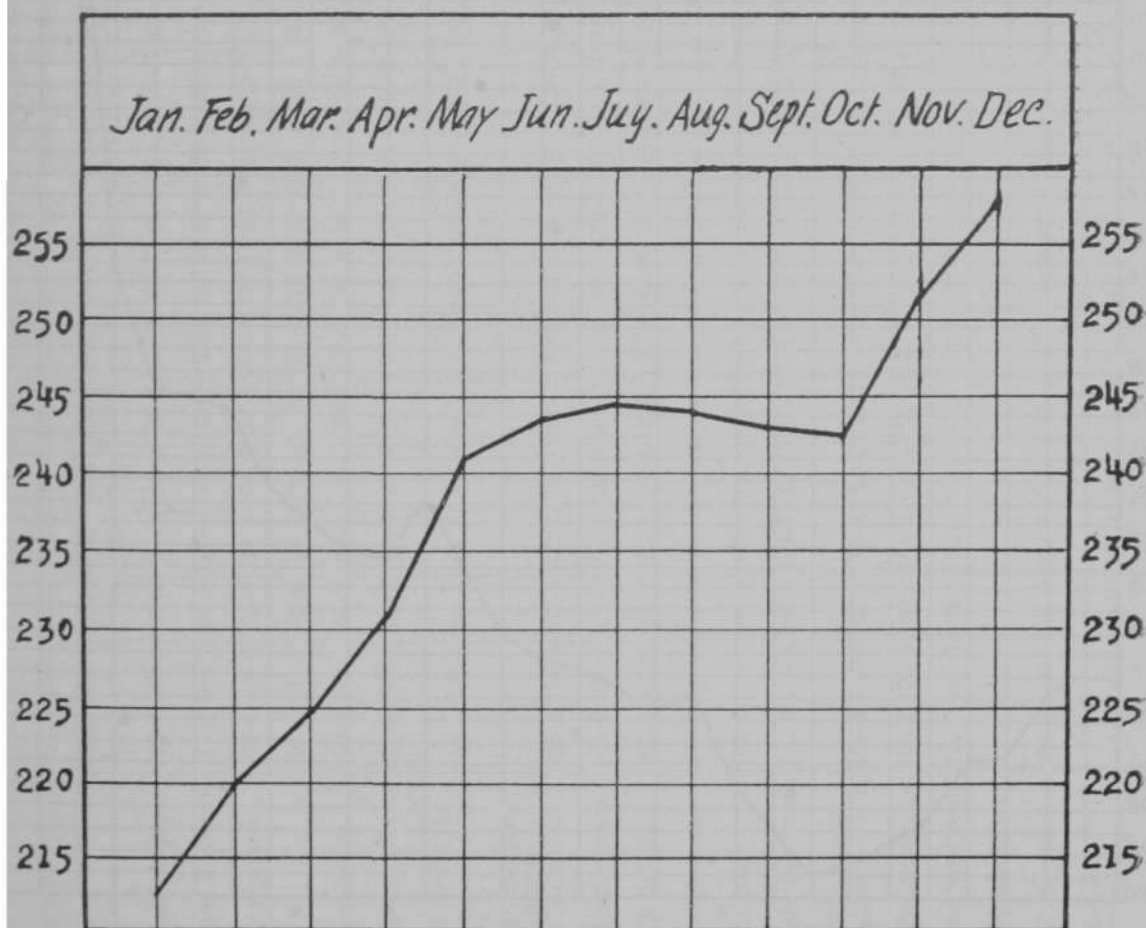
up to the end of the year 1917 is 3,602 of which 41 were prepared during the calendar year 1917.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES IN CANADA.

Wholesale Prices.—The Special Report on Wholesale Prices in Canada during the twenty years 1890-1909, issued by the Department of Labour in 1910 has been followed by similar annual reports for each year, 1910 to 1917. The changes in prices are measured by index numbers which are percentages of the average prices during the decade 1890 to 1899. The list included 230 commodities from 1890 to 1909, 272 from 1910 to 1914, and 271 from 1915 to 1917. The tables and diagrams show the course of prices by the groups into which the list has been divided for each month of 1917 and by years back to 1890. It will be seen that the advance was greater during 1917 than in any previous year, considerable advances appearing in all lines, but especially in farm products and foods following the world crop shortage of 1916.

Retail Prices.—The "Labour Gazette" has published each month since January, 1910, the retail prices of some thirty foods, coal, wood, coal oil and the prevailing rates for the rent of a six-roomed house in some 60 localities in Canada having a population of 10,000 or over. Similar returns were secured for December, 1900 and 1905 for the Board of Inquiry into the Cost of Living¹ in Canada, 1914 and 1915. From these figures calculations of typical

COURSE OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN CANADA, 1917.



Number of Commodities; 271. Average prices, 1890-1899=100.