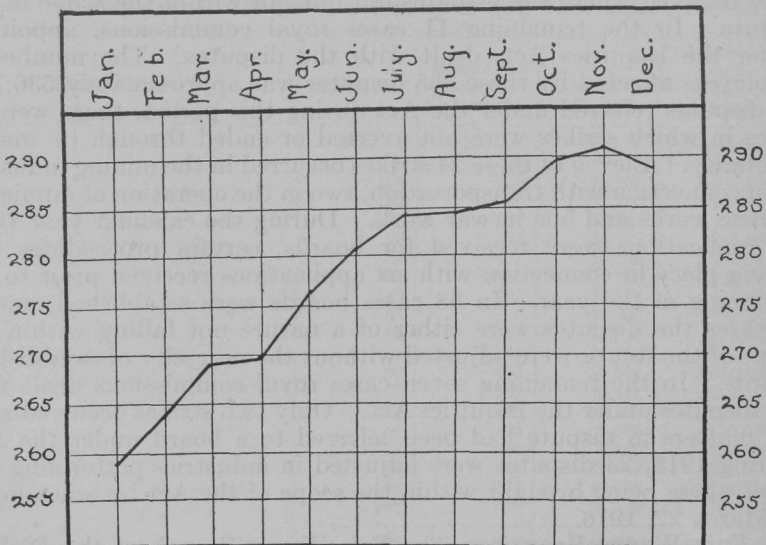


minimum wage rates, which are inserted in Dominion Government contracts, and must be adhered to by contractors in the execution of the respective works. The number of fair wages schedules prepared since the adoption of the Fair Wages Resolution in 1900 up to the end of the year 1918 is 3,163, of which 101 were prepared during the calendar year 1918.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES IN CANADA.

Wholesale Prices.—Statistics as to wholesale prices in Canada have been published annually by the Department of Labour since 1910. A special report covering the twenty years, 1890 to 1909, issued in 1910, was followed until 1917 by annual reports bringing the statistics up to date, while a résumé of the movement each month appears in the "Labour Gazette." Annual reports on the subject are not now issued, but statistics are printed monthly in the "Labour Gazette." 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 1918. Tables 4 and 5 and the accompanying diagrams show the course of prices by the groups into which the list has been divided for each month of 1918 and by years back to 1890. It will be seen that the advance was not quite so great during 1918 as in the previous year, but considerable advances appeared in all groups.

COURSE OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN CANADA, 1918.



Number of Commodities: 271. Average Prices 1890-1899 = 100.