

the world had completed the first phase of post-war currency reorganization, and a reasonable degree of price stability seemed to have been established. Commodities and weights were again revised at the beginning of 1934, bringing the total number of price series in the index up to 567.

From 1926 to the latter part of 1929 a moderate decline occurred, but its effect upon the price structure was not great. Subsequent dislocation, however, was extremely serious, as may be observed from the following percentage declines of group prices between August, 1929, and February, 1933: Canadian farm products, 60.7 p.c.; raw and partly manufactured materials, 50.5 p.c.; fully and chiefly manufactured goods, 29.3 p.c.; and the average of all commodities at wholesale, 35.5 p.c. From March, 1933, to December, 1936, the movement of commodity prices has been irregularly upward, and the advance for primary products considerably more rapid than that for manufactured products. The following index numbers show the relationship between the average of all commodities and specified commodity groups for December, 1936: all commodities, 100.0; Canadian farm products, 103.4; raw and partly manufactured materials, 99.5; and fully and chiefly manufactured materials, 97.0. This represents material improvement over conditions existing at the nadir of the depression, and points to a substantial restoration of equilibrium between the major price groups.

2.—Weighted General Wholesale Price Index Numbers, by Months, 1927-36.

(1926=100.)

Month.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
January.....	97.8	96.9	94.0	95.3	75.9	69.5	63.8	70.7	71.4	72.9
February.....	97.6	96.8	95.0	93.9	75.5	68.9	63.5	72.1	71.8	72.5
March.....	97.3	97.7	95.6	91.8	74.5	69.0	64.3	72.1	71.9	72.4
April.....	97.3	98.3	94.5	91.2	73.9	68.2	65.3	71.3	72.5	72.2
May.....	98.3	97.9	93.4	89.7	72.5	67.4	66.7	71.1	72.2	71.9
June.....	98.7	96.9	93.4	87.7	71.8	66.4	67.5	72.0	71.4	72.3
July.....	98.5	96.0	97.2	85.3	71.3	66.5	70.5	72.0	71.4	74.3
August.....	98.3	95.3	98.4	83.7	70.5	66.7	69.5	72.2	71.7	76.1
September.....	97.1	95.4	97.8	82.1	69.7	65.9	68.9	71.9	72.4	76.4
October.....	97.2	95.2	96.8	81.0	69.9	65.0	67.9	71.3	73.1	77.1
November.....	96.9	94.9	95.7	79.5	70.7	64.7	68.9	71.1	72.7	77.2
December.....	97.2	94.6	96.0	77.7	70.4	64.0	69.0	71.1	72.7	79.7
Yearly Averages.	97.7	96.4	95.6	86.6	72.1	66.7	67.1	71.6	72.1	74.6

The general level of wholesale prices in Canada advanced 9.6 p.c. during 1936. This was represented by a rise in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics wholesale price index number from 72.7 to 79.7, which compares with 63.5, the extreme low of the preceding decline reached in February, 1933. The December, 1936, wholesale price index was thus 25.5 p.c. above the depression nadir, and it is noteworthy that more than a third of subsequent recovery has come in the year just ended. Of even greater interest is the fact that the 1936 increase came almost entirely during the past six months after a period of two and one-half years of exceptional stability. The 1936 advance has been very unevenly distributed as may be observed from the following percentages of increase for different commodity groups: vegetable products 28.0; animal products 1.8; textiles 2.0; wood products 5.8; iron and its products 4.9; non-ferrous metals 17.8; non-metallic minerals 0.5; chemical products 1.9; and