

7.—Monthly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Commodities, Classified According to Origin and Degree of Manufacture, 1933, 1939 and 1940—concluded

Origin and Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
ARTICLES OF FOREST ORIGIN—concluded												
Fully and Chiefly Manufactured—												
1933.....	61·8	61·6	61·3	55·3	55·2	55·1	55·2	55·3	55·3	56·0	56·1	56·2
1939.....	69·6	69·5	69·2	69·3	69·3	69·2	68·9	69·1	73·6	74·0	74·3	74·4
1940.....	74·8	75·2	75·2	75·2	75·2	75·5	76·1	76·1	75·8	75·7	75·8	75·8
TOTALS, FOREST ORIGIN—												
1933.....	63·8	63·3	63·1	59·5	59·7	61·9	62·8	63·5	64·0	64·7	64·6	64·7
1939.....	76·0	76·0	76·0	76·1	76·5	76·7	76·7	78·0	81·9	83·2	84·7	85·0
1940.....	85·6	85·8	86·3	86·6	86·8	87·1	89·7	90·4	91·1	91·0	91·0	90·9
ARTICLES OF MINERAL ORIGIN—												
Raw and Partly Manufactured—												
1933.....	75·8	75·6	75·9	74·9	74·1	74·4	75·7	75·0	76·5	75·9	76·2	77·3
1939.....	81·1	81·0	80·8	80·5	80·2	80·2	79·7	80·0	81·3	82·0	83·8	83·9
1940.....	85·5	86·6	86·7	86·3	88·3	88·9	90·5	90·5	90·6	90·7	90·7	90·7
Fully and Chiefly Manufactured—												
1933.....	84·2	83·3	83·4	83·6	83·7	84·2	84·3	84·7	85·8	86·1	86·1	86·1
1939.....	88·2	88·2	88·1	88·0	87·6	87·5	87·8	87·6	88·9	90·3	90·7	91·0
1940.....	91·3	91·2	91·2	91·0	90·9	90·9	91·6	92·7	93·2	93·3	93·3	93·3
TOTALS, MINERAL ORIGIN—												
1933.....	80·4	79·9	80·0	79·7	79·4	79·8	80·5	80·4	81·6	81·5	81·7	82·2
1939.....	85·0	85·0	84·8	84·6	84·3	84·2	84·2	84·2	85·5	86·6	87·6	87·8
1940.....	88·7	89·1	89·2	88·9	89·7	90·0	91·1	91·7	92·0	92·1	92·1	92·1

Imports and Exports.—Net increases were noted for both import and export wholesale price indexes over closing 1939 levels, but the relative margin of imports over exports continued to widen. At the end of 1939 the import index was 32·4 p.c. above the export index; this margin rose to 36·8 p.c. in June, 1940, and narrowed slightly during the second half of the year to 36·1 p.c.

For December, 1940, the import index of 98·0 was 3·5 p.c. above the January level. Among imports showing the sharpest percentage increases were: raw rubber, fresh fruits, tobacco, rice and chicle in the vegetable products group, along with electrolytic copper wire, coal, glass, petroleum products and artificial fertilizers. Small declines were noted for raw silk and a few lesser items.

Price movements were more diverse among exports. While the composite index recorded a net increase for the year of 0·7 p.c., several sub-group indexes showed declines. Notable among these were vegetable products, with sharp losses occurring for grains, milled products and potatoes. Animal products; fibres, textiles and textile products; wood, wood products and paper; and iron and its products were all considerably higher, while minor increases were recorded for non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals. Chemicals were unchanged.