

18.—Sample Rates of Wages and Hours per Week for Common Labour in Factories, 1920.

Location of Factory.	Wages per hour.	Hours per week.	Location of Factory.	Wages per hour.	Hours per week.
	\$ cts.			\$ cts.	
Dartmouth, N.S.....	0.40	50	Toronto, Ont.....	0.40	50
Three Rivers, Que.....	0.40	60	Hamilton, Ont.....	0.47	55
Three Rivers, Que.....	0.45	60	London, Ont.....	0.45	59
Montreal, Que.....	0.45	54	Regina, Sask.....	0.60	50
Montreal, Que.....	0.40	54	Calgary, Alta.....	0.66	52½
Ottawa, Ont.....	0.45	50	Edmonton, Alta.....	0.45	49½
Ottawa, Ont.....	0.41	50	Vancouver, B.C.....	0.45	48
Ottawa, Ont.....	0.35	50	Victoria, B.C.....	0.45	50
Toronto, Ont.....	0.39	55	Victoria, B.C.....	0.40—0.45	58
	Wages per week.			Wages per week.	
Halifax, N.S.....	19 00	50	Toronto, Ont.....	27 75	50
St. John, N.B.....	20 00	54	Toronto, Ont.....	20 25	44
St. John, N.B.....	18 00	49½	Hamilton, Ont.....	17 00	48
Montreal, Que.....	21 18	55	London, Ont.....	20 60	55
Montreal, Que.....	18 90	49½	Winnipeg, Man.....	25 00	53
Montreal, Que.....	22 50	55	Winnipeg, Man.....	24 00	44
Montreal, Que.....	23 00	48	Winnipeg, Man.....	22 50	45

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 appeared 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 1920. Tables 19 and 20 and the accompanying diagrams show the course of prices by the groups into which the list has been divided for each month of 1919 and 1920 and by years back to 1890.

Table 19 and its illustrative diagram are of special interest, as showing the violent fluctuations of wholesale prices during 1919 and 1920. The index number of wholesale prices in December 1920 was 290·5, nearly the same as that for January 1919. In the interval, however, after a slight decline in the early months of 1919, there took place a rapid upward movement of wholesale prices, culminating in May 1920, when the index number reached its record height of 356·6, and followed by an even more abrupt decline which at the end of 1920 showed no signs of termination. The upward movement lasting from March 1919, to May 1920, or fourteen months, was practically reversed in the seven months from May to December 1920. Nevertheless, it is to be remembered that, as shown by Table 20 and its accompanying diagram, the average wholesale prices of 1920, 333·6, were considerably higher than those of 1919, 293·2.