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THEODORE MEUNIER Manager

WHOLESALE PRICE MOVEMENT IN CANADA

(Continued from page 19)

Japanese government controlled much of the transportation on the Pacific ocean. In some instances railroad transportation and through shipments were similarly affected. The absence of many commodities from the markets and the governmental control of prices and supplies in many others caused many of the index numbers to reflect prices movements in all their operations less accurately than usual, and some were discontinued owing to the paucity of data.

The movement of prices in Canada since 1890 is indicated by Chart No. 1. The prices from 1890 to 1900 were averaged, and the result was called one hundred for the purpose of making comparisons with prices in subsequent years. For instance, prices at the beginning of 1916 were 180 per

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cent. of the average for the decade from 1890 to 1899. Two lines are drawn, the one representing an unweighted index number, that is, the commodities are not taken in proportion to their importance in ordinary use. The other represents a weighted index number. It will be seen that the results are similar.

The second chart indicates in greater detail the movement since 1910.

Another chart prepared by the department compares the movement in Canada with that in the United Kingdom and the United States. It has been most pronounced in the United Kingdom, but prices moved very similarly in Canada and the United States, although from 1914 until early in 1917 those in Canada advanced somewhat more than in the United States on account of Canada's participation in the war.