

CHART OF PRICES OF ONTARIO WOOLS, 1871 TO 1908.

This chart shows the prices of certain wools from 1871 to 1908. The heavy black line shows the price of Ontario combing wools, washed, in the Toronto market. The dotted line next above this shows the price, in England, of English Lincoln wools of a class corresponding with Ontario combing wools. The line interrupted with single crosses, starting in 1890, gives Kentucky quarter bred and three-eighths blood wools of a type at present nearest to Ontario wools, but these prices are for unwashed wools. The same wools, if washed, would show a range of prices about a third higher. The lines interrupted by double crosses and ending at 1887 show United States wools of a type formerly comparing with Ontario combing wools, but in the washed condition. Information for a continuous record of wools of this class could not be obtained. The wavy line shows the prices realized by Ontario wools after being sold in the United States markets, showing a difference of 10 to 15 cents per pound more than is obtained by the Ontario farmer in his own market. Thus the Canadian wool-grower has been unable, except at rare periods, to get into the British market, under free trade conditions, and in selling in the United States he always has a handicap in price because of the duty. The quotations, wherever obtainable, were in the months of May and June. The remarkable slump in prices of all wools, except Ontario, during the Wilson régimé will be noticed.