BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

October 4, 1949

Retail Instalment Credit
at Furniture, Household Appliance, and Jewelry Stores

August 1949

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture and household appliance stores showed some further expansion in August and at the end of the month were approximately one-sixth larger than on the corresponding date of 1948. The amount outstanding on instalment accounts of jewelry stores at the end of August was approximately the same as a month earlier but slightly larger than the amount carried on the books as of August 31 last year.

Collections on instalment accounts of furniture stores kept pace with the increasing receivables and the collection ratio--collections during the month expressed as a percentage of accounts outstanding at the beginning of the month--was 12 per cent for the third consecutive month. At household appliance and jewelry stores the collection ratio was 14 per cent, one point higher than in July.

Instalment Accounts Outstanding and Collection Ratios

Month	Accounts outstanding at end of month December 31, 1939 = 100			Collection ratios 1/		
	Furniture stores	Household appliance stores	Jewelry stores	Furniture stores	Household appliance stores	Jewelry stores
1947						
July	81	65	95	17	23	16
August	83	70	99	17	21	15
September	87	74	103	19	22	17
October	92	79	106	19	22	17
November	98	85	117	18	21	17
December	110	91	156	16	21	21
1948						
January	104	90	143	14	19	15
February	103	90	137	14	17	14
March	104	94	134	15	18	15
April	108	103	130	15	17	15
May	112	112	131	15	18	15
June	116	118	131	16	17	16
July	117	124	129	14	17	16
August	122	131	127	14	17	16
September	128	138	128	14	16	16
October	128	139	127	14	16	16
November	130	138	137	14	15	17
December	140	142	164	14	15	20
1949						
January	131	134	152	12	15	14
February	128	129	140	12	14	13
March	126	128	133	14	15	14
April	127	129	133	13	14	14
May	131	134	132	13	14	14
June	134	140	134	12	14	14
July	136	148	131	12	13	13
August p	141	153	131	12	14	14

p - Preliminary.
1/ Instalment collections during month as percentage of accounts outstanding at beginning of month.