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ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT

SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS



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ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT OF THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

FOREWORD

The present volume, the second ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT OF THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, is designed to afford in readily available form the back data for the statistical series carried in the regular monthly issues. In the present volume, over 2,100 statistical series are presented, covering practically all of the available measurements of economic activity which are issued on a monthly basis. Monthly statistics are given from 1923 through 1931 and monthly averages for earlier years since 1913, where available. The material has been carefully revised with the idea of making it of maximum benefit to business men, research workers, and all those interested in recent economic changes as revealed by current statistical data.

Most of the statistics contained herein are not compiled by the SURVEY, but represent a careful selection of material available from all sources. The chief function of this publication is to bring together in usable form the statistics which, if published at all, are scattered in hundreds of different publications and reports. The SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS computes the indexes of domestic and world stocks, new and unfilled orders, agricultural, livestock, and forest-products marketings, foreign trade, five and ten cent store sales, and department store sales by districts.

As the series have all been reviewed and necessary revisions made in the current edition, they supersede the data carried not only in the semiannual numbers issued in February and August of each year prior to 1931, but also that in the 1931 annual supplement. It is not the intention to publish in each annual supplement the monthly data for nine years, as in the present

instance, and it is suggested that subscribers preserve the current volume. In the future, it is expected that the annual number will cover monthly data for only four years with annual averages for earlier years.

The 12 monthly numbers of the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS for 1932 will carry these statistical series forward, giving in each issue comparative data for a 13-month period, as well as 20 pages of charts and analytical comment prepared by the staff of the Division of Economic Research. With the June, 1932, issue the classification of material in the monthly number has been rearranged so as to facilitate the joint use of the two volumes. The monthly numbers, containing statistics available up to the 28th of the month, should be received by subscribers by about the 5th of the following month.

A 4-page supplement containing weekly data, and certain monthly statistics in advance of publication in the monthly number, is mailed to all subscribers on Thursday of each week.

Attention is invited to the two companion volumes issued by the Division of Economic Research—the Statistical Abstract of the United States and Volume I of the Commerce Yearbook. The former is an annual statistical review of all phases of economic activity, and the latter gives a detailed yearly review of business conditions in the United States and non-contiguous territories.

This supplement has been prepared in the Division of Economic Research, of which J. Frederic Dewhurst is chief, under the direction of M. Joseph Meehan, editor of the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS.