

MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW

Covering Conditions in the Sixth Federal Reserve District.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

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BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Prepared by the Federal Reserve Board

Production in basic industries and factory employment continued to decline in May and there was a further recession in wholesale prices. Distribution of commodities was in greater volume than at this time last year, but slightly less than in April.

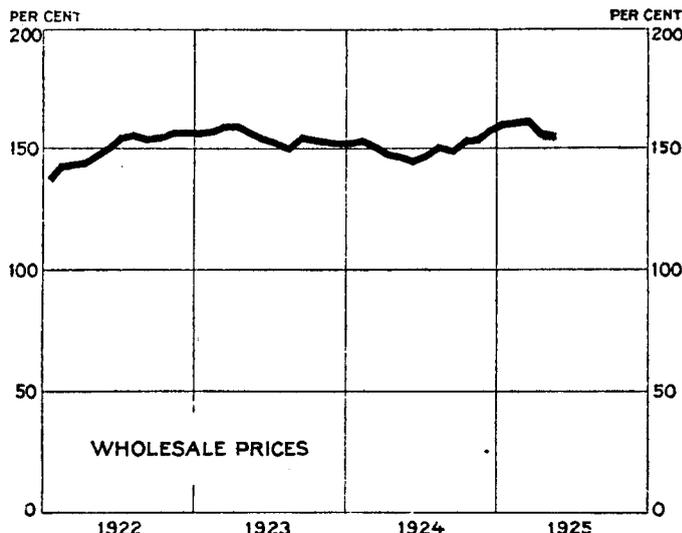
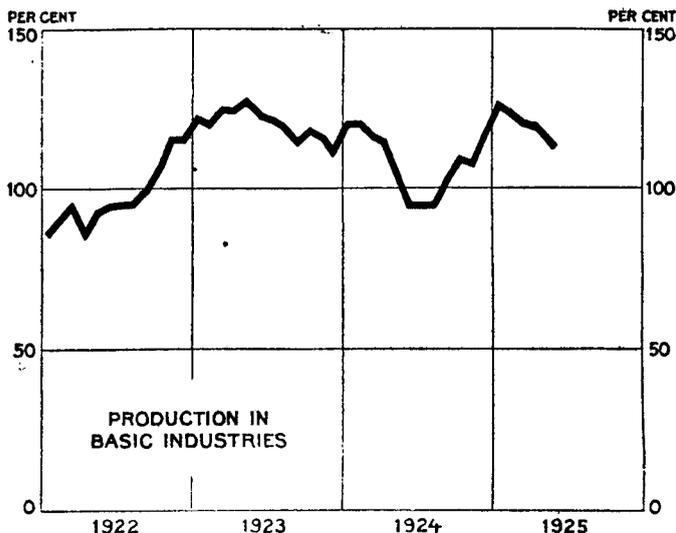
Production The Federal Reserve Board's index of production in basic industries declined six per cent in May to a level 12 per cent below the high point in January. There were further considerable decreases in the output of the iron and steel and woolen industries, and declines also occurred in the mill consumption of cotton and in copper, sole leather, and newsprint production. The number of automobiles manufactured during May fell slightly below the record figure of April. Employment at industrial establishments was slightly less in May than in the month before, with decreases, partly seasonal, in the clothing, boot and shoe, and iron and steel industries and increases in the industries producing automobiles, tobacco products and certain building materials. Building contracts awarded during May were smaller in value and in square feet than those for April, but were larger than for any other month on record.

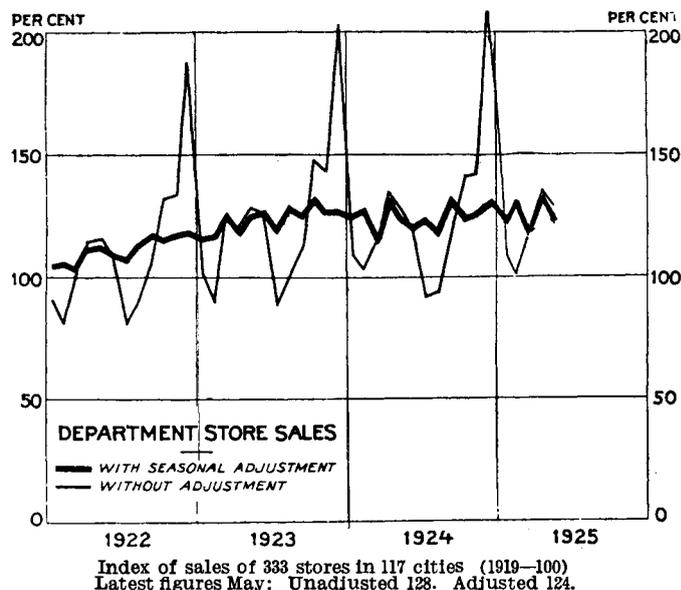
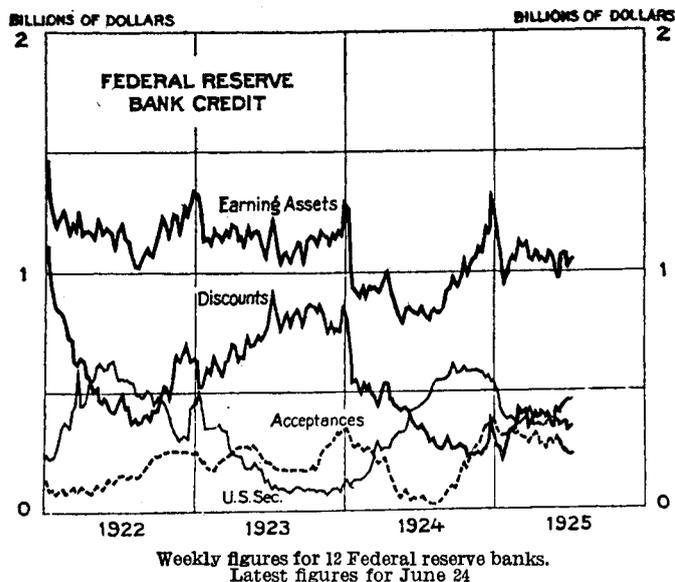
Trade Department store sales in May were smaller than in April but somewhat larger than a year ago, and mail order sales were five per cent larger than in May, 1924. Department store stocks declined in May and were at the same level as a year ago. Wholesale trade was in about the same volume as the month before and about three per cent larger than a year ago, increases over last year in sales of meats and dry goods offsetting decreases in sales of groceries, shoes, hardware and drugs. Wholesale stocks

of groceries in dollar values were larger than a year ago, while stocks of dry goods and shoes were substantially smaller. Car loadings of miscellaneous products and merchandise decreased slightly during May, but were greater than a year ago.

Prices Wholesale prices continued to decline in May, but the decrease was considerably smaller than for the preceding month. All groups of prices represented in the Bureau of Labor Statistics index declined except house furnishings, and flour, cotton goods, and pig iron declined, while quotations on sheep, hogs, gasoline, hides and rubber advanced.

Bank Credit Borrowing for commercial purposes at member banks in leading cities declined further between the middle of May and the middle of June to a level lower than at any time this year, while loans on securities increased and reached a new high level in June. Investment holdings of these banks also increased, and total loans and investments at the middle of June were near the high point for the year. At the reserve banks there was an increase in member bank borrowing between May 20 and June 24 and on that date discounts for member banks were in larger volume than at any time since the opening of the year. Further decreases in the holdings of acceptances and of United States securities brought the volume of open market holdings in June to the lowest level since last summer. Conditions in the money market remained relatively steady during the latter part of May and first three weeks of June, notwithstanding the heavy treasury operations in the middle of June.





SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY.

General business conditions in the sixth district have not changed materially during the past month, and most of the series of statistics gathered for the Review show favorable comparisons with a year ago. The index number of retail trade, computed monthly and based on sales reported during the past six years by 43 department stores, is higher for May than for the same month in the past four years. However, the total volume of sales reported for May by 49 department stores (figures for six of them not being used in the index number) was nearly one per cent smaller than in May last year. Wholesale trade exhibited a seasonal decline in May, except in shoes and electrical supplies, but was greater than in May last year in all lines except groceries. A larger demand for funds is reflected by an increase of nearly 50 million dollars in the amount of loans and discounts by 36 banks in important cities of the district over a year ago, and the improved condition of the banks is indicated by increased holdings of United States securities and other stocks and bonds, and in the further fact that these banks were discounting at the Federal Reserve Bank nearly thirteen and one-half million dollars less than a year ago. Savings deposits of 93 reporting banks at the end of May were 8.3 per cent greater than a year ago, and debits to individual accounts at 24 reporting cities for the week ended June 10 were more than 61 million dollars greater than for the same week last year. Building permits at 20 cities during May exceeded the total for May 1924 by 48.8 per cent, and were the highest since these figures have been

collected by the Federal Reserve Bank. Textile manufacturing declined slightly during May; there was a decline of 265,000 active spindles in the United States compared with April, of which only 90,292 were in the cotton-growing states. The number of active spindles was greater than in May 1924 by 2,663,580, and the increase in the cotton-growing states was 1,098,680. The condition of the cotton crop is higher than at this time of the season in several years, but rain has not been sufficient, and other crops are suffering because of this continued deficiency in moisture.

RETAIL TRADE.

The volume of sales during May at 49 department stores located throughout the sixth district was nine tenths of one per cent smaller than sales by the same stores in May last year. Increased sales over May 1924 were reported from Atlanta, Birmingham, Jackson, New Orleans and Other Cities, while smaller total sales were recorded for Chattanooga, Nashville and Savannah. The total volume of sales for the first five months of the year was practically the same as for the same period last year, the percentage comparison being a decrease of less than three one-hundredths of one per cent (0.03%). Stocks of the reporting stores were 2.8 per cent lower at the end of May than a month earlier, and 9.4 per cent smaller than a year ago. The rate of turnover during May this year has been better at all reporting cities than during May 1924 except at Chattanooga, where the rate was the same; the average for the district being 25.6 per cent. For the first five months of the year there was an average

CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING MAY 1925 IN THE SIXTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT BASED UPON REPORTS FROM 49 STORES

	1		2		3		4		5	
	Net sales, Percentage increase or decrease compared with:		Stocks at end of month, percentage increase or decrease compared with:		Percentage of sales to average stocks in May (stock turn-over for the month):		Percentage of sales to average stocks from Jan. 1 to May 31 (Stock turn-over for year to date)		Percentage of outstanding orders at end of month to purchases during calendar year, 1924:	
	(A) May 1924	(B) Jan. 1 to May 31, 1924	(A) May 1924	(B) Apr. 1925	(A) 1924	(B) 1925	(A) 1924	(B) 1925	(A) Apr.	(B) May
Atlanta (5).....	*4.4	*3.8	-19.5	-5.4	27.2	35.3	129.4	148.8	2.7	2.4
Birmingham (5).....	*0.3	*2.5	-6.3	-3.4	23.9	28.3	109.2	122.6	4.6	8.1
Chattanooga (6).....	-19.0	-21.0	-20.9	*0.3	18.5	18.5	91.6	95.9	3.0	3.0
Jackson (3).....	*0.9	-1.5	-3.1	-2.5	22.1	23.2	101.1	101.8	x	x
Nashville (5).....	-12.6	-4.3	-13.1	-0.7	27.2	27.7	110.7	123.9	2.9	1.9
New Orleans (5).....	*1.9	*0.9	-4.2	-2.7	21.4	22.6	108.3	115.4	7.9	8.2
Savannah (3).....	-2.8	*6.2	-10.4	-3.1	21.8	23.3	90.7	107.7	4.0	3.7
Other Cities (17).....	*3.9	*4.3	-2.6	-2.8	21.6	23.8	102.6	117.0	3.8	2.4
DISTRICT (49).....	-0.9	-0.0	-9.4	-2.8	23.1	25.6	109.0	120.5	4.8	4.9

turnover of 120.5 for the district, all reporting cities showing a better rate than last year. The index number of department store sales, computed from statistics of 43 reporting stores, is higher for May this year than during May of any of the past four years.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

The volume of wholesale trade in the sixth district reflected in confidential reports received for May from more than 150 wholesale firms in nine different lines, was seasonally smaller than in April, but was larger than in May last year in all lines except groceries. The index number, prepared from figures reported by more than eighty of these firms dealing in groceries, dry goods, hardware and shoes, is 75.8 for May, compared with 80.2 for April, and with 72.1 for May last year. Figures in the tables which follow show percentage comparisons of sales in each line by cities where three or more reports are received from each city.

Groceries Sales by 39 wholesale grocery firms during May were 2.9 per cent smaller than in April, and 2.6 per cent smaller than in May last year. The decrease compared with April was shared by all reporting cities, and Jacksonville was the only city to report increased sales over May a year ago. The reports indicate slight declines in prices during May. Collections were reported good by 6 firms, fair by 13, and poor by 1. Percentage comparisons of sales follow:

	May 1925 compared with	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (5 firms).....	-4.8	-9.6
Jacksonville (4 firms).....	-3.8	*10.4
Meridian (3 firms).....	-4.8	-8.3
New Orleans (8 firms).....	-2.5	-2.7
Vicksburg (4 firms).....	-1.2	-0.1
Other Cities (15 firms).....	-2.0	-8.8
DISTRICT (39 firms).....	-2.9	-2.6

Dry Goods Reports from 27 wholesale dry goods dealers indicate a volume of sale 14.6 per cent smaller than in April, all reporting cities showing decreases. Compared with May 1924, however, sales during May this year were 13.7 per cent greater, the increase being shared by all reporting cities, except Knoxville. The index number for May is 61.3, compared with 70.2 for April, and 54.1 for May last year. Slackening in demand is reported as the cause of some slight decreases in prices of dry goods during the month. Collections were reported good by 7 firms, fair by 10 and poor by 1.

	May 1925 compared with:	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (4 firms).....	-21.1	*3.6
Jacksonville (3 firms).....	-9.3	*44.7
Knoxville (3 firms).....	-19.0	-9.4
Nashville (3 firms).....	-17.1	*31.7
New Orleans (4 firms).....	-10.5	*14.0
Other Cities (10 firms).....	-12.2	*17.4
DISTRICT (27 firms).....	-14.6	*13.7

Hardware Sales by 30 wholesale hardware firms in the district during May were 5 per cent smaller than in April, but were 6 per cent greater than in May last year. All reporting cities showed increases over last year except Chattanooga. Some of the reports indicate small decreases in prices during the month. Collections were reported good by 3 firms, and fair by 12. The reports indicate that hardware merchants are buying only for current requirements, except in the case of those commodities which must be ordered ahead.

	May 1925 compared with	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (3 firms).....	-8.8	*14.8
Chattanooga (3 firms).....	-15.8	-18.5
Nashville (3 firms).....	-5.4	*12.8
New Orleans (6 firms).....	-1.5	*3.6
Other Cities (15 firms).....	-5.6	*10.9
DISTRICT (30 firms).....	-5.0	*6.0

Furniture Reports from 18 wholesale furniture dealers show a volume of sales 18.4 per cent smaller than in April, but 13.8 per cent greater than in May a year ago. Business in this line is usually very quiet for the period preceding the opening of the furniture markets in July, and dealers are buying very little at this time. Collections during May were reported good by 8 firms and fair by 5. The reports indicate no material change in prices.

	May 1925 sales compared with	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (6 firms).....	-16.6	*10.8
Chattanooga (3 firms).....	-19.9	*46.0
Nashville (3 firms).....	-24.4	*37.1
Other Cities (6 firms).....	-16.3	-7.3
DISTRICT (18 firms).....	-18.4	*13.8

Electrical Supplies Sales in May by 10 wholesale electrical supply dealers were 4.4 per cent greater than in April and 24.5 per cent greater than in May a year ago. A decrease was shown for Other Cities, but was more than off set by the increases shown at Atlanta and New Orleans. Prices have changed very little during the month. Collections were reported good by 4 firms, fair by 4, and poor by 1.

	May 1925 compared with:	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (3 firms).....	*10.1	*19.7
New Orleans (3 firms).....	*3.1	*8.8
Other Cities (4 firms).....	-3.6	*32.6
DISTRICT (10 firms).....	*4.4	*24.5

Shoes An increase of 6.6 per cent over April is shown in sales during May by wholesale shoe firms, due to a large increase reported from Atlanta, sales at "Other Cities" showing a decrease of 9.3 per cent. The average increase over May 1924 was 21 per cent. Prices are reported to have increased slightly during May because of the action of the leather market. Collections were reported fair by 4 firms.

	May 1925 compared with:	
	April 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (3 firms).....	*44.1	*38.3
Other Cities (5 firms).....	-9.3	*11.5
DISTRICT (8 firms).....	*6.6	*21.0

The figures which follow show percentage changes in sales in the other three lines for the district only, as not a sufficient number of reports was received to show percentage changes by cities. Seasonal decreases compared with April, but increases over May last year are reported in each line. The reports indicate fair collections during May in all three lines.

	May 1925 compared with:	
	April 1925	May 1924
Stationery—District (4 firms).....	-6.3	*6.5
Drugs—District (8 firms).....	-3.9	*4.8
Farm Implements—District (7 firms).....	-16.1	*42.1

AGRICULTURE.

The first report of the cotton season issued by the Department of Agriculture early in June shows a condition on May 25 of 76.6 per cent of normal, compared with 65.5 per cent last year, and compared with a ten-year average condition on May 25 of 72.0. As a general thing planting was done earlier this year than last and the season is reported to be from one to two weeks early all through the district. Early planted cotton has a good start, but late planted cotton has not had sufficient moisture for proper germination and growth. There were some rains during May which benefited the crop in some sections, but many parts of the district still need rain. The condition in Georgia on May 25 was higher than on that date in any year since 1919. Some localities, however, report conditions not so good as the average for the state, and weevils have been found in fairly large numbers through most of the southern counties. The condition in Alabama is 80 per cent, compared with 70 per cent last year, with some weevils appearing. Ample supplies of labor are reported from Tennessee, Florida and Louisiana but the supply is somewhat short of the demands in Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama. Private estimates indicate an increase of about 5 per cent in the cotton acreage this year over last. The following table shows the condition of the crop on May 25 compared with previous figures:

	Condition on May 25			
	1925	1924	1923	Ten-year average
Alabama.....	80	70	70	71
Florida.....	88	77	87	76
Georgia.....	78	68	65	70
Louisiana.....	84	70	68	73
Mississippi.....	84	69	70	73
Tennessee.....	82	54	70	72

Pecans A heavy crop of pecans in Florida is indicated by a condition on June 1 of 91 per cent of normal, an unusually high figure for this time of the year. The nut casebearer, which usually takes a heavy toll at about this time of the year, is being held in check by natural parasites. Georgia and Mississippi also report that the condition is considerably better than at this time last year.

Cotton Movement—6th District.

Bales.

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Receipts:			
New Orleans.....	62,799	76,994	111,335
Mobile.....	3,938	5,674	12,269
Savannah.....	6,901	26,422	28,841
Atlanta.....	5,345	6,687	8,144
Augusta.....	6,241	6,019	7,823
Montgomery.....	106	754	1,718
Macon.....	*	3,214	2,827
Stocks:			
New Orleans.....	115,408	175,416	135,808
Mobile.....	1,550	1,763	2,017
Savannah.....	16,661	22,475	26,839
Atlanta.....	19,419	20,369	12,534
Augusta.....	26,647	35,279	19,441
Montgomery.....	6,423	7,369	7,817
Macon.....	*	8,244	4,375
Vicksburg.....	646	1,149	1,600

*Report not received.

Cotton Movement—United States.

Since August 1 (Bales)

	1925	1924	1923
Receipts at all U. S. Ports.....	9,224,173	6,628,506	5,697,828
Overland across the Miss., Ohio, Potomac Rivers to Nor. Mills and Canada.....	1,206,766	854,010	1,193,822
Interior stock in excess of those held at close of com'l year.....	133,533	79,843	40,415
Southern Mills takings, net.....	3,667,000	3,169,716	3,661,997
Total movement 302 days.....	14,231,472	10,732,075	10,594,062
Foreign exports.....	7,573,965	5,183,773
American Mills N. & S. and Canada*.....	6,206,219	5,287,607
American cotton thus far.....	12,927,000	10,130,000	11,168,000

*Of which 2,079,537 by Northern spinners against 1,612,243 last year and 4,126,681 by Southern spinners against 3,675,364 last year.

CITRUS FRUIT.

While the late bloom may improve prospects for next season's citrus crops, the condition of oranges and grapefruit is unusually low. Oranges showed a further decline during May and the condition is now reported at 78 per cent of normal, and grapefruit at 77 per cent. Tangerines showed a slight improvement and the condition of satsumas in Northern Florida has advanced. Late bloom is showing up good in some sections of the belt. Movement for the present season is practically over, with production of oranges far short of the early estimate because of small sizes and losses from splitting. Carlot movement is indicated below:

	May 1925	May 1924	Season through May 1925	May 1924
Oranges.....	957	2,078	25,401	30,309
Grapefruit.....	1,498	2,486	20,598	19,399
Tangerines.....	0	0	1,713	1,027
Total.....	2,455	4,564	47,712	50,735

SUGAR CANE AND SUGAR.

Preliminary figures compiled by the Department of Agriculture indicate an increase this year in the sugar cane acreage in Georgia and Florida, but decreases in the other producing states. The following tabulation shows the acreage by states, compared with last year, and the condition of sugar cane in each state on June 1, 1925:

State	Acreage 1925	1924	Condition on June 1, 1925
South Carolina.....	8,200	9,600	80%
Georgia.....	44,500	40,500	81%
Florida.....	30,000	27,000	82%
Alabama.....	66,800	70,300	84%
Mississippi.....	24,000	30,000	77%
Louisiana.....	300,700	311,300	87%
Texas.....	14,400	18,000	64%
Arkansas.....	3,000	3,500	70%
TOTAL.....	491,600	510,200	84.3%

Sugar Movement.
Raw Sugar (Pounds.)

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Receipts:			
New Orleans.....	120,231,737	257,804,423	166,100,725
Savannah.....	16,890,946	20,236,673	49,547,974

Meltings:			
New Orleans.....	153,585,151	178,979,524	130,354,191
Savannah.....	31,039,788	16,932,048	20,379,437

Stocks:			
New Orleans.....	83,228,181	116,612,979	111,783,979
Savannah.....	6,363,810	20,512,652	22,680,312

Refined Sugar (Pounds)

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Shipments:			
New Orleans.....	145,815,583	134,673,109	111,586,425
Savannah.....	36,765,681	23,738,753	26,725,794

Stocks:			
New Orleans.....	63,964,682	63,242,608	90,253,870
Savannah.....	9,558,912	18,115,076	14,111,644

RICE MOVEMENT.

Rough Rice (Sacks) Port of New Orleans.

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Receipts.....			
.....	6,338	14,323	6,413
Shipments.....			
.....	8,348	27,617	7,505
Stock.....			
.....	22,956	24,966	35,149

Clean Rice (Pockets) Port of New Orleans.

Receipts.....	34,214	53,915	44,252
Shipments.....	117,128	95,082	71,433
Stock.....	140,200	223,114	118,216

Receipts of Rough Rice (Barrels).

	May 1925	Season to May 31, 1925	Last season to May 31, 1924
Association Mills.....			
.....	4,662	4,380,975	4,833,456
New Orleans Mills.....			
.....	6,338	977,051	728,277
Outside Mills.....			
.....	1,757,040	1,778,246
	11,000	7,115,066	7,339,979

Distribution of Milled Rice (Pockets).

Association Mills.....	187,168	4,410,138	5,048,524
New Orleans Mills.....	90,733	969,911	790,405
Outside Mills.....	59,320	1,770,360	1,840,752
	337,221	7,147,409	7,679,681

Stock.

	June 1, 1925	May 1, 1925	June 1, 1924
Association Mills.....			
.....	141,068	310,733	172,218
New Orleans Mills.....			
.....	156,479	239,873	151,285
Outside Mills.....			
.....	66,200	123,500	106,300
	363,747	674,106	429,803

FINANCIAL.

Increased deposits and loans, and decreased borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank were indicated in reports for June 10 rendered by 36 member banks located in Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville and Savannah, compared both with a month ago and with the same time last year. Increases were shown over figures a month earlier for both time and demand deposits, the latter having increased \$4,840,000 during that period. Total discounts were \$2,822,000 greater than on May 6 of this year. United States Securities were held in smaller volume, and total loans, discounts and investments showed an increase of \$2,040,000 on June 10 compared with May 6. Accommodation extended by the Federal Reserve Bank to these 36 banks totaled \$2,053,000 less than a month ago. Compared with June 11, 1924, figures for June 10 of this year show increases of \$56,567,000 in total loans, discounts and investments; \$13,896,000 in time deposits, and \$65,048,000 in demand deposits, while borrowing by these 36 banks from the Federal Reserve Bank on June 10 this year was only \$5,259,000 compared with \$18,720,000 last year.

Member Banks in Selected Cities.

(000 Omitted.)

	June 10, 1925	May 6, 1925	June 11, 1924
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations.....	\$ 7,903	\$ 7,747	\$ 7,915
Secured by Stocks and Bonds.....	87,043	80,761	66,371
All Others.....	375,988	379,604	346,916
Total Discounts.....	470,934	468,112	421,202
U. S. Securities.....	37,540	39,650	33,262
Other Stocks and Bonds.....	43,937	42,609	41,380
Total loans, discounts and invest- ments.....	552,411	550,371	495,844
Time Deposits.....	199,875	196,899	185,979
Demand Deposits.....	334,642	329,802	269,594
Accommodation at F. R. Bank.....	5,259	7,312	18,720

The total of bills discounted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta reached on June 17 a point higher than for any reporting date since last October, but still nearly ten million dollars below the figure for June 18 last year. Bills bought in the open market aggregated on June 17, \$18,654,000 compared with \$10,603,000 on May 13, and with \$2,992,000 on the corresponding report date last year. United States Securities totaling \$13,876,000 were held on June 17, compared with \$8,222,000 a month ago, and with only \$195,000 at the same time last year. Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation were at a lower level than on any report date in about nine months.

The tables which follow show the principal items in the weekly statement of the Federal Reserve Bank, total savings deposits reported by 93 banks in the district, and debits to individual accounts at 24 cities of the district:

Federal Reserve Bank.
(000 Omitted.)

	June 17, 1925	May 13, 1925	June 18, 1924
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations...	\$ 4,634	\$ 2,874	\$ 4,809
All Others.....	19,259	16,622	28,880
Total Discounts.....	23,893	19,496	33,690
Bills bought in open market.....	18,654	10,603	2,992
U. S. Securities.....	13,876	8,222	195
Total earning assets.....	56,854	38,752	36,876
Cash Reserves.....	148,987	166,314	162,004
Total Deposits.....	70,431	69,625	60,151
F. R. Notes in actual circulation...	135,969	139,472	138,740
Reserve Ratio.....	72.2	79.5%	81.5%

Saving Deposits.
(000 Omitted.)

	Compari- son of		Compari- son of	
	May 1925	Apr. 1925	May 1925	May 1924
Atlanta (7 banks).....	\$ 34,010	\$ 33,310	+2.1	\$ 31,828
Birmingham (5 banks).....	23,491	23,127	+1.6	22,206
Jacksonville (5 banks).....	20,825	20,209	+3.0	19,762
Nashville (10 banks).....	22,423	22,197	+1.0	19,664
New Orleans (9 banks).....	49,142	48,602	+1.1	47,839
Other Cities (58 banks).....	96,408	94,905	+1.6	86,213
Total (93 banks).....	\$246,299	\$242,350	+1.6	\$227,512

DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS.
Sixth Federal Reserve District.

	Week Ended		
	June 10, 1925	May 13, 1925	June 11, 1924
Albany.....	\$ 1,068,000	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 896,000
Atlanta.....	36,615,000	32,986,000	29,631,000
Augusta.....	5,809,000	5,290,000	5,802,000
Birmingham.....	30,988,000	29,245,000	24,270,000
Brunswick.....	941,000	788,000	712,000
Chattanooga.....	9,377,000	9,971,000	8,054,000
Columbus.....	3,589,000	3,498,000	2,571,000
Dothan.....	802,000	864,000	432,000
Elberton.....	249,000	192,000	267,000
Jackson.....	4,323,000	4,600,000	3,500,000
Jacksonville.....	23,431,000	19,276,000	13,937,000
Knoxville.....	7,148,000	6,710,000	7,102,000
Macon.....	5,034,000	4,950,000	4,442,000
Meridian.....	3,654,000	3,481,000	2,614,000
Mobile.....	7,967,000	6,786,000	6,527,000
Montgomery.....	5,599,000	4,900,000	5,365,000
Nashville.....	19,132,000	17,555,000	17,790,000
Newnan.....	404,000	415,000	374,000
New Orleans.....	80,217,000	78,808,000	62,848,000
Pensacola.....	2,239,000	1,735,000	1,618,000
Savannah.....	10,065,000	7,883,000	8,333,000
Tampa.....	19,386,000	14,209,000	9,781,000
Valdosta.....	1,314,000	1,092,000	1,031,000
Vicksburg.....	1,832,000	1,626,000	1,833,000
Total.....	\$281,163,000	\$257,880,000	\$219,730,000

COMMERCIAL FAILURES.

Commercial failures in the United States, compiled by R. G. Dun & Co., were slightly smaller in number and in liabilities during May than in April. Compared with May 1924, the number of failures in May this year was a little smaller, but liabilities were larger by \$435,647. In the Sixth District May failures were more in number and larger in liabilities than the low figure for April, but were smaller in both instances than in May last year. The table below shows the number and liabilities divided by Federal Reserve Districts:

District	Number		Liabilities	
	May 1925	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Boston.....	177	\$ 2,563,135	\$ 4,995,937	\$ 1,863,187
New York.....	347	8,959,077	12,377,626	9,019,248
Philadelphia.....	67	1,108,264	1,605,999	1,233,641
Cleveland.....	153	4,496,342	2,604,395	4,514,298
Richmond.....	131	5,752,331	2,079,733	3,682,106
Atlanta.....	97	1,418,655	981,798	1,717,606
Chicago.....	197	2,896,011	6,234,526	5,369,806
St. Louis.....	89	1,369,633	1,694,044	174,163
Minneapolis.....	99	1,371,418	678,977	3,254,555
Kansas City.....	120	1,956,286	1,096,191	2,528,904
Dallas.....	56	1,956,651	792,113	720,652
San Francisco.....	234	3,178,749	2,047,253	2,462,739
Total.....	1,767	\$37,026,552	\$37,188,622	\$36,590,905

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Preliminary figures compiled and published by the Department of Commerce indicate a further falling off in the volume of imports and exports during May, compared with the preceding months. May figures, however, are higher for both imports and exports than for the same month last year. Exports in May exceeded imports by \$42,000,000, against an excess of \$32,110,910 in May last year and for the 11 months ending with May exports exceeded imports by \$1,038,826,770, compared with an excess of \$724,634,219 during the same period a year earlier.

	1925	1924
Imports:		
May.....	\$ 328,000,000	\$ 302,967,791
April.....	348,704,047	324,290,966
11 months ending with May.....	3,502,114,810	3,280,036,266
Exports:		
May.....	\$ 370,000,000	\$ 335,098,701
April.....	398,907,969	346,935,702
11 months ending with May.....	4,540,941,580	4,004,670,485

New Orleans.

Merchandise to the value of \$26,036,466 was imported through the Port of New Orleans during March, an increase of \$13,695,847 over February, and of about \$6,000,000 over March last year. Increases over March a year ago were shown in coffee, bananas, creosote oil, molasses, burlaps, mahogany and sisal, while decrease were shown in sugar and newsprint paper. Imports of crude petroleum and gasoline, while smaller in quantity, were larger in value. The following are principal articles imported during March:

	Volume	Value
Coffee, lbs.....	41,472,733	\$ 9,781,300
Sugar, lbs.....	168,810,771	4,674,511
Bananas, bunches.....	1,594,199	714,670
Newsprint, paper, lbs.....	4,644,739	138,042
Crude petroleum, gals.....	48,964,000	1,317,340
Gasoline, gals.....	12,938,115	1,373,858
Creosote oil, gals.....	5,493,600	767,758
Molasses, gals.....	11,273,719	844,973
Burlap, lbs.....	9,837,316	1,343,460
Sisal, tons.....	9,198	1,370,862

The total value of merchandise exported through the Port of New Orleans during March was \$40,689,515, about five million dollars smaller than in February. Some of the larger items exported in March were:

	Volume	Value
Short staple cotton, bales.....	76,150	\$10,150,911
Long staple cotton, bales.....	41,798	5,708,811
Linters cotton, bales.....	8,994	393,227
Gasoline, gals.....	37,110,054	4,298,563
Gas and fuel oil, gals.....	15,868,838	629,297
Cylinder lubricating oil, gals.....	1,770,916	470,664
Wheat, flour, bbls.....	236,861	2,004,470
Tobacco, lbs.....	12,061,305	1,869,226
Rough southern pine boards, Mft.....	9,736	604,227
Dressed southern pine boards, Mft.....	2,596	114,037
Oak boards, Mft.....	5,338	328,131

Grain Exports—New Orleans.

Exports of grain through the Port of New Orleans during May totaled 2,951,281 bushels, compared with 740,041 bushels during May last year. Wheat, oats and rye were exported in larger volume than last year while the exportation of corn was less. Figures for the month and for the season, with comparisons, are shown below:

	Season through			
	May 1925	May 1924	May 1925	May 1924
Wheat, bu.....	2,513,138	273,600	32,496,970	6,356,095
Corn.....	270,784	423,854	2,763,449	4,972,081
Oats.....	81,645	25,445	932,750	295,005
Rye.....	85,714	17,142	94,285	281,627
Total.....	2,951,281	740,041	36,287,454	11,904,808

BUILDING.

During the month of May 1925 permits were issued at 20 cities in the sixth district for the construction of buildings aggregating \$15,231,053 in value, an increase of 48.8 per cent over the corresponding month a year ago, and the highest total reached for any month since the Federal Reserve Bank began compiling these statistics in 1919. Six cities reported decreases compared with May a year ago, while the other fourteen cities reported increases, some of them very large. The index number for May rose to 422.2, the highest on record for these twenty cities. Detailed figures by reporting cities are shown in the following table, and index numbers are contained on page 8:

	May 1925		May 1924		Percentage change in value
	No.	Value	No.	Value	
Alabama:					
Anniston.....	23	\$ 42,050	31	\$ 25,305	*66.2
Birmingham.....	640	1,765,611	752	1,640,490	*7.6
Mobile.....	70	87,985	87	111,150	-38.8
Montgomery.....	92	190,046	66	40,990	*363.6
Florida:					
Jacksonville.....	321	724,154	337	539,213	*34.3
Miami.....	358	5,085,074	259	1,392,800	*265.1
Orlando.....	184	431,532	141	295,745	*45.9
Pensacola.....	49	45,583	8	28,006	*62.8
Tampa.....	575	1,561,230	333	326,981	*377.5
*Lakeland.....	142	591,725	34	127,140	*365.4
*Miami Beach.....	43	1,169,650	23	1,169,550	*0.0
Georgia:					
Atlanta.....	393	1,300,358	456	1,698,324	-23.4
Augusta.....	132	117,196	134	127,140	-7.8
Columbus.....	65	476,272	31	290,281	*64.1
Macon.....	162	313,436	116	70,803	*342.7
Savannah.....	79	237,440	80	178,190	*33.3
Louisiana:					
New Orleans.....	238	1,202,925	300	2,136,875	-43.7
Alexandria.....	79	73,641	61	69,467	*6.0
Tennessee:					
Chattanooga.....	322	254,420	195	314,373	-91.1
Johnson City.....	13	37,975	40	76,250	-50.2
Knoxville.....	288	685,194	-----	515,520	*32.9
Nashville.....	281	618,931	263	481,141	*28.6
Total 20 Cities.....	4,364	\$15,231,053	3,690	\$10,238,792	*48.8
Index Number.....		422.4		284.0	

*-Not included in totals or index numbers.

LUMBER.

Reports and statistics for the month of May indicate that while production and shipments of lumber were at a high rate, there was some slight lagging in the demand as reflected in the volume of orders. Preliminary figures for May received from 147 subscribing mills of the Southern Pine Association up to the 15th of June, show a total volume of orders amounting to 346,077,382 feet, shipments amounting to 355,608,946 feet, and production totaling 356,279,077 feet, compared with a normal production for these mills of 353,134,121 feet. Stocks on May 31, of the 147 reporting mills, amounted to 861,001,213 feet, which was 54,589,801 feet lower than the normal stocks carried by these mills. Reports indicate a steady flow of orders from retailers for the items suitable for construction purposes, but this buying is for current needs and the yards appear unwilling to place advance orders. Weekly reports of operating time made to the Southern Pine Association indicates that during the four weeks ended June 5, an average of 17 mills operated an average of 22 hours overtime each, and that an average of 6 mills operated double shifts. Preliminary figures for the month, with comparisons, are shown below:

	May 1925 (147 mills)	April 1925 (138 mills)	May 1924 (145 mills)
Orders.....	346,077,382	347,617,977	329,255,495
Shipments.....	355,608,946	347,129,250	367,381,242
Production.....	356,279,077	346,451,831	367,272,312
Normal Production these Mills.....	353,134,121	333,405,472	361,578,801
Stocks end of month.....	861,001,213	851,286,685	888,008,277
Normal stocks these mills.....	915,591,014	886,683,245	932,596,162
Unfilled orders end of month.....	218,919,162	221,860,809	189,719,748

Cotton Consumption—May 1925.

United States Census Bureau.

United States.

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Cotton Consumed:			
Lint.....	531,471	597,104	413,976
Linters.....	61,187	59,036	42,661

In Consuming Establishments:			
Lint.....	1,348,304	1,514,514	1,157,428
Linters.....	154,632	162,861	122,480
In Public Storage and at Com-			
presses:			
Lint.....	1,134,920	1,666,147	1,126,282
Linters.....	45,255	49,663	72,844
Exports.....	330,967	472,555	326,357
Imports.....	14,219	22,409	16,107
Active Spindles.....	33,147,632	33,412,650	30,484,052

Cotton Growing States.

Cotton Consumed.....	358,986	399,465	290,220
In Consuming Establishments.....	733,575	838,134	636,305
In Public Storage and at Com-			
presses.....	864,268	1,345,722	962,357
Active Spindles.....	16,872,364	16,962,656	15,773,684

MANUFACTURING.

Cotton Cloth.

Reports for May were made to the Federal Reserve Bank by mills which manufactured during that month 28,403,000 yards of cotton cloth, an output 1.9 per cent lower than for the preceding month, but 4.7 per cent greater than for May last year. Shipments, orders booked, and unfilled orders on hand at the end of the month were all smaller than for April, but greater than for May last year, orders booked showing an increase of 95.2 per cent over that month. Stocks on hand at the end of May were greater by 13.8 per cent than at the close of April, but were 22.4 per cent smaller than a year ago. The mills reported a continued light demand except in a few lines, and prices being received allow very little if any margin of profit. The reports state, however, that most of the orders being placed are for immediate delivery. Figures reported by the mills indicate that they have orders which will keep them operating at full capacity on an average of 7 weeks. Percentage comparisons are shown below:

	May 1925 compared with:	May 1924
	April 1925	May 1924
Production.....	-1.9	*4.7
Shipments.....	-6.4	*6.5
Orders booked.....	-27.4	*95.2
Unfilled orders.....	-9.2	*29.5
Stocks on hand.....	*13.8	-22.4
Number on payroll.....	-2.3	*4.4

Cotton Yarn.

Continued poor demand for yarns is indicated in reports for May received from mills which manufactured during that month over 7,000,000 pounds of cotton yarn. This is a decrease of 13.5 per cent in production compared with April. Shipments, orders booked and unfilled orders on hand at the end of May all showed decreases compared with April. Stocks of yarn on hand at the end of May, were 16.7 per cent greater than a month earlier. The number of workers on the payrolls was smaller by 6.7 per cent than at the end of April. Compared with May 1924, figures reported for May this year were larger in each instance, production being 19.9 per cent greater, and orders booked showing an increase of 35.2 per cent. The mills had orders on hand at the end of May which would keep them operating for 7 weeks. Percentage comparisons follows:

	May 1925 compared with:	May 1924
	April 1925	May 1924
Production.....	-13.5	*19.9
Shipments.....	-15.9	*22.5
Orders booked.....	-5.2	*35.2
Unfilled orders.....	-12.2	*16.7
Stocks on hand.....	*16.7	*3.5
Number on payroll.....	-6.7	*19.2

Overalls.

Declines in output, orders received, unfilled orders and in working forces compared with April were indicated in reports from mills which produced 12,326 dozen pairs of overalls during May. Stocks on hand increased 51.6 per cent over April. Compared with May last year, however, all of these items showed increases for May this year, production being two-thirds greater, and unfilled orders showed an increase of 433 per cent. The reporting mills operated at 77 per cent of capacity in May, compared with 86 per cent in April, and with 48 per cent of capacity in May 1924. Percentage comparisons are shown below:

	May 1925 compared with: April 1925	May 1924
Overalls manufactured.....	-26.9	*66.3
Overalls on hand.....	*51.6	*52.1
Orders booked.....	-43.0	*11.1
Unfilled orders.....	-26.7	*433.3
Number on payroll.....	-1.2	*48.6

Brick.

Production of brick during May declined 10.5 per cent compared with April, and was also smaller than during May last year. Stocks on hand also declined, in comparison with both of those months. Orders booked were slightly larger than in April, but were 26.3 per cent greater than in May 1924, and unfilled orders were 18.3 per cent greater than a month ago, but only 9.9 per cent greater than a year ago. Percentage comparisons of figures reported, are shown below:

	May 1925 compared with: April 1925	May 1924
Brick manufactured.....	-10.5	-13.4
Brick on hand.....	-13.4	-18.9
Orders booked.....	*1.7	*26.3
Unfilled orders.....	*18.3	*9.9
Number on payroll.....	*5.4	*26.0

Hosiery

Figures for May reported to the Census Bureau by 37 identical establishments in the sixth district indicate a reduced output compared with April, and reductions in shipments, orders booked, and in cancellations. Stocks on hand showed an increase over April, however, and unfilled orders on hand at the end of May were also larger than at the end of April.

	(Dozen pairs)	
	May 1925	April 1925
Production.....	895,059	935,760
Shipments.....	816,922	894,101
Stocks on hand.....	1,967,541	1,889,572
Orders booked.....	960,138	966,378
Cancellations.....	47,738	48,959
Unfilled orders.....	1,988,835	1,873,330

COAL.

The production of coal in the United States, according to statistics compiled by the Geological Survey, has been somewhat heavier during May than in April. February and March production was lower than in the same months last year, but for two months current production has exceeded that of the corresponding period a year ago. The decrease shown in the figures for the week ended May 30 is attributed to the observance of Memorial Day as a holiday in many districts. The following figures show the weekly production in the United States for May, compared with a year ago, and also current figures for Alabama and Tennessee:

Week Ended	1925	1924
May 2.....	7,987,000	6,832,000
May 9.....	8,277,000	7,125,000
May 16.....	8,350,000	7,031,000
May 23.....	8,451,000	7,163,000
May 30.....	8,141,000	6,708,000
June 6.....	8,385,000	7,373,000

Week Ended	Alabama	Tennessee
May 2, 1925.....	341,000	94,000
May 9.....	343,000	92,000
May 16.....	346,000	97,000
May 23.....	349,000	99,000
May 30.....	343,000	95,000

IRON.

Statistics compiled and published by the Iron Age indicate a total production during the month of May of 2,930,807 tons of pig iron in the United States, and a net loss of 24 furnaces in active operation, compared with the preceding month. This decline in output, taken with the decrease in April, shows May production to have been

633,447 tons less than in March. May output was greater this year, however, than in the same month a year ago. Our index number for May stands at 115.0 compared with 127.9 for April, and with 102.6 for May 1924. The daily average output in May was 94,542 tons, and was 14,090 tons less than the April rate. There were 28 furnaces blown out or banked during May and 4 blown in, a net loss of 24, bringing of furnaces active on June 1, to 196.

The production of iron in Alabama during May was smaller than in April or March, and amounted to 241,611 tons, compared with 285,351 tons in April, and 253,820 tons in March. The index number for Alabama output for May is 137.4, compared with 162.3 for April, and with 141.8 for May last year. One furnace was blown in, and one was blown out, resulting in no net change in the number actively operating. Reports indicate that while inquiries have improved actual buying is still lagging, although the price has been reduced from the \$22 base, and the quotations are now \$20.50 to \$21.00. Some reports indicate considerable business booked for third quarter delivery. There is reported to be a heavy stock of iron on furnace yards, resulting in the decrease in production.

Unfilled Orders—U. S. Steel Corporation.

Unfilled orders on the books of the United States Steel Corporation at the end of May were reported as 4,049,800 tons a decrease of 396,768 tons compared with the preceding month, and the lowest total reported since last November. It exceeds the total on hand at the end of May last year, however, by 421,711 tons.

NAVAL STORES.

With the advancing naval stores season, which began with April, receipts of both turpentine and rosin in the three principal markets of the district have increased substantially. Turpentine receipts in May were double those of April, though slightly smaller than in May last year, and rosin receipts were much greater than in April, but not quite equal to those in May 1924. Stocks of both commodities at the end of May were larger than a month earlier; supplies of turpentine were somewhat larger than a year ago, but stocks of rosin were smaller than at that time. Prices of turpentine continued to advance, and from May 11th through the 19th the ruling quotation was \$1.02, with high prices also being asked for rosins. By the last of the month, however, quotations of turpentine had receded to 95 cents, and there had been some recession in rosin prices. Statistics of the Turpentine & Rosin Producers Association indicates an average of 96½ cents for turpentine during May, compared with 87½ cents in April, and with 83½ cents in May 1924; and an average of \$9.30 for rosin, compared with \$7.72½ in April, and \$5.00 in May a year ago. The following table shows receipts and stocks of turpentine and rosin at the three principal markets of the district:

	May 1925	April 1925	May 1924
Receipts—Turpentine:			
Savannah.....	16,083	7,994	15,801
Jacksonville.....	13,222	6,342	14,617
Pensacola.....	5,074	2,549	4,531
Total.....	34,379	16,885	34,949
Receipts—Rosin:			
Savannah.....	49,622	26,089	45,534
Jacksonville.....	41,727	23,943	52,801
Pensacola.....	15,075	8,198	14,236
Total.....	106,424	58,180	112,571
Stocks—Turpentine:			
Savannah.....	7,605	4,323	7,610
Jacksonville.....	15,094	13,263	12,381
Pensacola.....	4,122	2,772	3,154
Total.....	26,761	21,358	23,595
Stocks—Rosin:			
Savannah.....	72,315	52,730	72,231
Jacksonville.....	73,300	80,501	109,718
Pensacola.....	16,355	21,013	52,695
Total.....	161,970	154,244	234,644

MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS.

The following index numbers, except where indicated otherwise, are computed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and are based upon average figures for 1919. That is, average monthly figures for the year 1919 are represented by 100, and the current monthly index numbers show the relation of activity in these lines to that prevailing in 1919.

RETAIL TRADE 6TH DISTRICT	March	April	May	March	April	May
(Department Stores.)	1925	1925	1925	1924	1924	1924
Atlanta.....	104.6	125.6	140.2	93.8	100.0	97.8
Birmingham.....	128.4	128.2	131.8	119.4	129.3	131.5
Chattanooga.....	82.2	91.9	87.6	107.7	111.3	107.9
Jackson.....	91.9	108.8	110.2	95.1	111.7	109.2
Nashville.....	93.1	94.7	102.9	91.8	98.0	117.7
New Orleans.....	106.8	118.8	108.0	99.7	115.0	106.0
Savannah.....	65.1	75.1	76.5	64.8	77.0	78.6
Other Cities.....	91.5	100.9	94.8	82.7	100.2	91.3
District.....	101.1	111.5	110.7	96.8	108.7	106.4
RETAIL TRADE U. S. (1)						
Department Stores.....	121	135	128	115	132	126
Mail Order Houses.....	120	117	94	106	114	90
Chain Stores:						
Grocery.....	255	264	254	198	210	212
Drug.....	160	159	163	149	145	150
Shoe.....	127	177	147	118	178	150
5 & 10 cent.....	177	195	191	163	178	174
Music.....	105	107	96	99	93	82
Candy.....	188	210	195	181	208	189
Cigar.....	131	134	143	136	130	143
WHOLESALE TRADE 6TH DISTRICT:						
Groceries.....	91.6	84.4	81.8	88.6	84.1	81.5
Dry Goods.....	88.3	70.2	61.3	68.5	64.3	54.1
Hardware.....	91.0	91.5	84.0	76.3	78.7	74.6
Shoes.....	66.6	56.0	59.7	65.1	60.5	49.3
Total.....	88.5	80.2	75.8	79.3	76.8	72.1
WHOLESALE PRICES U. S. (2)						
Farm Products.....	161.3	153.0	151.9	137.2	138.5	136.4
Foods.....	158.9	154.0	153.2	140.8	137.1	136.6
Cloths and Clothing.....	190.7	189.9	188.4	191.4	189.1	186.8
Fuel and Lighting.....	174.4	169.0	168.2	180.8	178.6	177.3
Metals and Metal Products.....	133.7	128.7	127.2	143.6	138.7	134.5
Building Materials.....	179.8	174.4	173.6	182.1	181.6	180.3
Chemicals and Drugs.....	134.2	133.6	133.1	129.9	128.4	127.3
House Furnishings.....	170.1	170.5	170.5	174.8	174.7	172.5
Miscellaneous.....	125.4	128.8	131.3	112.9	112.9	112.3
All Commodities.....	161.0	156.2	155.2	149.9	148.4	146.9
BUILDING PERMITS 6TH DISTRICT:						
Atlanta.....	123.6	98.2	149.3	144.4	176.8	195.0
Birmingham.....	619.9	534.7	539.8	638.0	316.4	501.6
Jacksonville.....	214.8	218.8	242.1	255.0	172.9	180.3
Nashville.....	547.4	535.0	326.9	178.9	435.0	272.5
New Orleans.....	280.1	330.1	274.1	246.0	408.8	488.5
Other Cities.....	408.3	402.3	649.9	212.8	397.8	250.2
District (20 Cities).....	334.5	323.8	422.4	240.6	321.7	284.0
COTTON CONSUMED:						
United States.....	108.9	111.6	99.3	90.5	89.7	77.3
Cotton-Growing States.....	132.6	135.3	121.6	112.5	110.8	98.2
All Other States.....	80.9	83.6	73.0	64.2	64.7	52.3
Cotton Exports.....	133.6	85.9	60.2	60.4	58.3	59.4
PIG IRON PRODUCTION:						
United States.....	139.9	127.9	115.0	136.0	126.9	102.6
Alabama.....	144.4	162.3	137.4	131.9	131.1	141.8
UNFILLED ORDERS—U. S. STEEL CORPORATION	81.1	74.2	67.6	79.8	70.2	60.5
(1) Compiled by Federal Reserve Board.						
(2) Compiled by Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1913—100.)						