

# THE BUSINESS REVIEW

THIRD FEDERAL  
PHILADELPHIA



RESERVE DISTRICT  
AUGUST 1, 1929

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## BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Output of manufactures continued in large volume in June, while mineral production declined. There was a rise in the general level of commodity prices, reflecting chiefly an advance in agricultural commodities.

**Production.** Activity of manufacturing establishments continued at a high rate in June. Output of automobiles and of iron and steel showed a seasonal decline smaller than is usual from May to June. Silk mill activity increased and there was a growth in the daily average production of cement, leather, and shoes. Production of copper at smelters and refineries decreased sharply and output of cotton and wool textiles was also reduced, although production in all of these industries continued larger than in other recent years. The volume of factory employment and payrolls in June showed a small seasonal decline from May, but, as in earlier months, was substantially larger than in 1928. Output of mines was generally smaller in June than in May, reflecting declines in the production of coal, copper, and other non-ferrous metals. Output of petroleum, however, increased to new high levels.

Reports for the first half of July indicate some further reduction in output of cotton textiles, iron and steel, lumber, and coal.

Volume of construction contracts awarded decreased further in June and for the first half year awards were 12 per cent less than in the same period in 1928, reflecting chiefly a substantial decline in residential building. During the first three weeks of July contracts awarded were larger than in the same period a year ago.

**Agriculture.** Department of Agriculture estimates, based on July first crop condition report, indicate a wheat crop of 834,000,000 bushels, about 8 per cent smaller than production last year, but larger than average production in the preceding five years. The acreage of cotton in cultivation on July first was estimated at 48,457,000 acres, 3 per cent more than a year ago.

**Distribution.** During the month of June freight car loadings were slightly smaller than in May, as a result of decreases in loadings of most classes of freight, except grain products and ores. In comparison with other recent years, however, loadings continued to show an increase.

Sales of department stores in June, as in earlier months, were larger than in the same month in 1928.

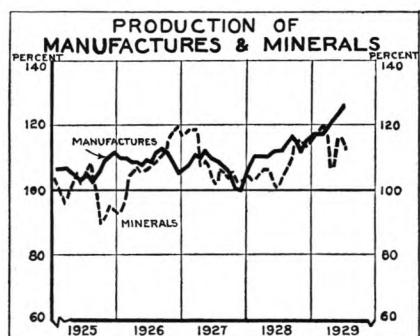
**Prices.** Wholesale prices, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Index, ad-

vanced from May to June on the average somewhat less than they had declined during the preceding month. Farm products, particularly grains, cattle, beef and hides, showed marked advances in price. Prices of mineral products and their manufactures also averaged higher in June than in May, the rise reflecting largely increases in the price of petroleum and gasoline. Prices of leading imports, rubber, sugar, silk and coffee, showed a decline for the month as a whole.

During the first two weeks of July wheat and corn continued to move sharply upward, while hides declined slightly in price. Hog prices increased and prices of rubber and tin, which began to advance in the middle of June, continued to rise.

**Bank credit.** During the first half of July the volume of credit extended by member banks in leading cities declined somewhat, following a rapid increase in June. On July 17 loans and investments of these banks were about \$400,000,000 above the level at the end of May. The increase reflected chiefly rapid growth in loans to brokers and dealers in securities and also some further increase in commercial loans. The banks' holdings of investments continued to decline and were on July 17 about \$700,000,000 below the middle of last year.

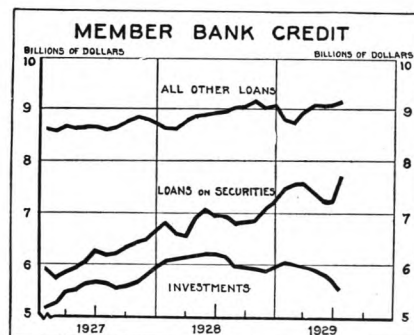
The total volume of reserve bank



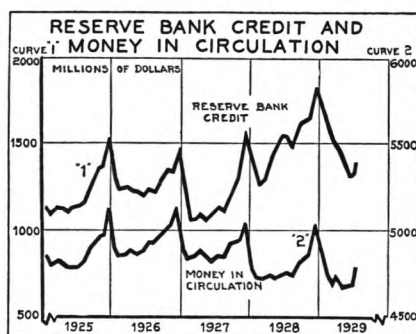
Index numbers of production of manufactures and minerals, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average = 100). Latest figures June, manufactures 127, minerals 113.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1926 = 100, base adopted by Bureau). Latest figure June, 96.4.



Monthly averages of weekly figures for reporting member banks in leading cities. Latest figures are averages of first three weeks in July.



Monthly averages of daily figures. Latest figures are averages of first 21 days in July.

credit outstanding showed an increase of about \$120,000,000 during the four weeks ending July 17, the increase being in discounts for member banks. Demand for additional reserve bank credit arose chiefly out of a considerable increase in the volume of money in circulation which accompanied the issuance of the new small-size currency. There was also some increase in reserve balances of member banks accompanying the growth in their loans and consequently in their deposits.

Open market rates on 90 day bankers' acceptances declined from 5½ to 5⅝ per cent between the latter part of June and the middle of July, while rates on prime commercial paper remained unchanged.

### BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE PHILADELPHIA FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Business conditions in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District generally show the usual mid-summer quiet, but the volume of transactions compares favorably with that at the same time in the past two years.

The market for manufactured goods generally is moderate, although sales have naturally declined since last month. Comparisons with a year ago on the whole are satisfactory. The demand for building materials, however, has lagged behind that of last year, reflecting lessened operations in construction.

Forward business on the books of reporting firms is appreciably larger than was the case at the same time last year, although there has been a decline since last month as is to be expected. The gain in unfilled orders over a year ago in metal products and most textiles accounts chiefly for this favorable showing.

Operations have declined moderately although the present rate is somewhat higher than that prevailing a year or two years ago, most of the manufacturing groups showing declines in the month but increases in comparison with last year. The demand for workers by employers in June showed a considerable increase and was also much greater than that in June, 1928, indicating a more favorable labor situation.

Factory employment in this section as a whole showed a slight gain from May

BUSINESS INDICATORS Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	June, 1929	Latest figure compared with	
		Previous month	Year ago
<b>Retail trade—estimated net sales (140 stores)</b> .....	\$23,852,000	+ 2.5%	- 1.7%
Department stores (61).....	\$19,651,800	+ 2.8 "	- 2.5 "
Apparel stores (41).....	\$2,913,800	+ 3.4 "	+ 3.1 "
Shoe stores (28).....	\$454,100	+ 12.9 "	+ 6.3 "
Credit stores (20).....	\$832,300	- 11.0 "	- 4.0 "
<b>Wholesale trade—net sales (101 firms)</b> .....	\$7,228,951	- 2.8 "	- 1.3 "
Boots and shoes (6).....	\$129,245	- 8.0 "	- 10.4 "
Drugs (10).....	\$1,375,700	- 3.8 "	- 2.6 "
Dry goods (13).....	\$501,542	+ 7.9 "	+ 0.8 "
Groceries (33).....	\$2,814,461	- 2.5 "	- 0.6 "
Hardware (21).....	\$1,575,660	- 4.0 "	- 1.6 "
Jewelry (11).....	\$360,378	- 2.3 "	- 4.0 "
Paper (7).....	\$471,965	- 7.0 "	+ 1.8 "
<b>Productive activity—</b>			
Employment—858 plants in Penna.....	295,352	+ 0.6 "	+ 9.0 "
Wage payments in above plants.....	\$7,986,686	- 1.0 "	+ 14.8 "
Shoe production* (93 factories).....	prs. 1,365,254	- 6.4 "	.....
Hosiery production* (124 mills).....	doz. prs. 1,511,021	- 8.2 "	.....
Wool consumption* (79 mills).....	lbs. 7,008,596	- 15.2 "	.....
Active cotton spindle hours (Penna. and N. J.).....	70,996,155	- 5.9 "	+ 0.8 "
Pig iron production.....	tons 344,196	- 8.6 "	+ 32.3 "
Iron casting production (35 foundries).....	tons 5,280	- 15.0 "	- 0.7 "
Steel casting production (12 foundries).....	tons 6,718	- 10.1 "	+ 14.4 "
Anthracite.....	tons 5,015,000	- 20.5 "	- 5.4 "
Bituminous coal—Penna.....	tons 10,921,000	- 2.5 "	+ 16.3 "
Cement.....	bbls. 3,697,000	+ 4.4 "	- 9.1 "
Electric power output (12 systems).....	KWH. 516,873,000	- 6.6 "	+ 18.8 "
<b>Financial and credit—</b>			
Debts (18 cities).....	\$3,155,186,000	+ 6.1 "	+ 1.1 "
Loans and investments—middle of July—member banks.....	\$1,604,500,000	+ 1.2 "	- 1.0 "
Bills discounted held by F. R. B. of Phila. (daily average).....	\$84,700,000	- 2.3 "	+ 5.6 "
Bankers' acceptances outstanding—end of month (district).....	\$15,211,000	+ 3.9 "	- 5.7 "
Commercial paper sales (4 dealers).....	\$3,607,500	+ 193.9 "	+ 54.8 "
Commercial failures—number.....	62	- 28.7 "	- 21.5 "
Commercial failures—liabilities.....	\$1,248,063	- 34.4 "	- 30.9 "
<b>Building and real estate—</b>			
Building permits (17 cities).....	\$16,329,600	- 0.9 "	- 24.6 "
Building contracts awarded (Philadelphia district).....	\$38,327,305	+ 1.4 "	- 21.3 "
Number of real estate deeds recorded (Philadelphia county).....	5,381	+ 1.5 "	- 12.7 "
Value of mortgages recorded (Philadelphia county).....	\$17,996,250	+ 1.0 "	- 32.2 "
Sheriff sale (Philadelphia county)—number of writs issued for July.....	938	+ 5.7 "	+ 33.2 "
<b>Miscellaneous—</b>			
Freight car loadings (Allegheny district—weekly average).....	219,671	- 0.6 "	+ 8.4 "
Tonnage of vessels (Port of Philadelphia).....	tons 4,077,985	- 7.4 "	+ 4.9 "
Sales of life insurance (Penna., N. J., and Del.).....	\$109,750,000	- 0.5 "	- 1.7 "
Automobile sales (registrations of new passenger cars).....	23,965	- 4.7 "	.....

\* Bureau of Census preliminary figures.

to June while payrolls declined somewhat, as usual at this time. Factory activity as measured by payrolls and employment, however, continued substantially above the level of a year ago. The industrial consumption of electrical energy and the total output of electric power also declined in the month but showed material gains over the preceding year.

Further evidence of seasonal decline is afforded by the reduction in the output of shoes, hosiery, pig iron, and anthracite. Mill takings of wool fibers by the textile industry likewise decreased in this district, as in the country. Production of cement, on the other hand, while increasing seasonally, remained noticeably below the volume of last year.

Building contracts awarded during June showed a slight gain but still lagged considerably behind the volume of last year. Lately, however, comparisons with last year appear to be more favorable. The value of building permits in this district declined slightly in the month and considerably as contrasted with June, 1928.

The market for both anthracite and

bituminous coal is characterized by the usual dullness, sales having declined further since the middle of last month. Prices of domestic sizes of anthracite have turned upward, as is customary at this time, while those for steam sizes show some weakness. Quotations for bituminous coal have declined, reflecting probably lessened demand from industries.

Shipments of goods by railroads in this section have declined only a little from the May volume, which was almost the largest, when due allowance is made for seasonal variations, since 1923. Lately, however, freight car loadings have turned up slightly and continued well ahead of a year ago. The movement of most raw materials and of merchandise and miscellaneous commodities continued appreciably heavier than in the same period last year or two years ago. Check payments in the latest four weeks have increased more than 3 per cent and were nearly 16 per cent larger than in the same period last year.

Trading at wholesale is moving forward at a fair gait, and prices have fluctuated only within a narrow range.

Sales generally declined from May to June and were smaller than in June, 1928, owing partly to the fact that there were fewer trading days in June this year than last.

Retail business, while fair, has reflected summer influences since the end of last month. Sales in June, however, were larger than in May, department, apparel, and shoe stores showing gains while credit stores reported declines. In comparison with a year earlier, total retail sales were somewhat smaller owing mainly to a decline in sales of department stores. Total sales on a daily basis, however, were larger.

Commercial money rates in Philadelphia, as reported by large banks in this city, were practically unchanged in the past month. The loans of banks in twenty-one cities of this district increased, owing chiefly to heavier loans on securities. Other loans, which reflect principally the business demand for funds, continued to expand despite seasonal recession in industrial activity. Borrowings of member banks from the Federal Reserve Bank did not change materially in the four weeks ended July 17, gains in the settlements being approximately balanced by a heavier demand for currency.

### FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

In the past month there has been continued firmness in call money and an expansion in brokers' loans to a new high point.

Money in circulation shows an increase, although this may be ascribed partly to the issue of new size currency on July 10. The monetary gold stock of the country also has been raised by imports. They totaled more than 42 millions in the four weeks ended July 17, of which 24 millions came from Argentina and about 18 millions from England. Exports were negligible, but 22 millions was added to the gold held under earmark for foreign account.

**Money rates.** Firm call money rates have prevailed over the last month. At no time up to the 20th of July did the renewal rate fall below 7 per cent and on July 2, following heavy interest and dividend disbursements, it was 15 per cent. No change was reported in prime commercial paper, but the offering rate for ninety-day bankers' bills was reduced from 5½ to 5¼ per cent. Average call money rates follow:

Call money renewals (Daily average rates—%)	1929					1928
	Apr.	May	June	July	July	
For period from—						
1st to 5th.....	10.0	10.3	6.7	11.0	7.2	
6th to 10th.....	7.3	12.4	7.0	8.3	5.7	
11th to 15th.....	8.7	8.0	7.7	9.0	6.8	
16th to 20th.....	7.9	9.7	7.0	10.0	5.8	
21st to 25th.....	7.7	6.6	8.0		5.5	
26th to 31st.....	11.7	6.0	10.0		5.6	

CITY CONDITIONS Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	June, 1929, compared with June, 1928					
	Employment	Wage payments	Value of building permits	Debits	Retail sales	Electric power sales
Allentown area.....	- 3.7%	- 2.4%	- 33.3%	+ 2.4%	- 0.0%	.....*
Altoona ".....	+11.7	+16.1	+ 56.5	- 1.6	- 0.6	+13.4% †
Harrisburg ".....	+11.4	+16.0	+238.5	+ 2.0	+ 5.7	..... ‡
Johnstown ".....	+ 4.1	+11.9	+ 19.7	+13.0	+ 1.3	+ 5.9 †
Lancaster ".....	+ 3.9	+ 4.0	- 69.2	+16.8	+ 5.2	+15.6 †
Philadelphia ".....	+15.0	+17.3	- 32.3	+ 0.5	- 3.2	+13.3 †
Reading ".....	+10.5	+21.6	- 11.7	+ 9.4	+ 7.3	+30.0 †
Scranton ".....	+ 3.0	- 0.9	+44.4	- 7.4	- 3.8	- 2.0 †
Trenton ".....	+ 3.6	+11.1	+35.4	- 4.8	- 0.7	+20.0 †
Wilkes-Barre ".....	+11.9	- 1.2	- 59.6	-21.3	+ 7.2	..... ‡
Williamsport ".....	+28.2	+31.6	- 73.7	+ 8.7	.....	..... ‡
Wilmington ".....	+ 9.6	+13.5	- 30.2	+36.9	+10.5	+17.1 †
York ".....	- 0.5	- 6.2	- 8.8	- 4.6	.....	+16.9 †

### June, 1929, compared with May, 1929

Allentown area.....	- 1.6%	- 0.8%	+ 20.3%	- 1.5%	+ 5.8%	- 9.8%*
Altoona ".....	+ 7.5	+ 4.0	+ 83.5	- 0.1	-10.9	- 4.2 †
Harrisburg ".....	- 0.1	- 3.0	+206.4	+ 5.3	-11.8	..... ‡
Johnstown ".....	+ 1.4	- 2.5	+ 3.5	+ 6.1	- 5.8	- 7.0 †
Lancaster ".....	- 1.1	- 4.4	+ 8.3	+11.0	+ 3.4	- 3.3 †
Philadelphia ".....	+ 1.1	+ 0.6	+ 23.8	+ 6.9	+ 4.0	- 2.3 †
Reading ".....	- 0.9	- 2.3	- 72.3	+ 2.3	+ 4.9	- 2.0 †
Scranton ".....	+ 0.2	- 2.7	+614.5	- 1.7	-11.0	- 6.1 †
Trenton ".....	+ 0.7	- 2.0	+ 23.2	+ 4.8	+10.0	+ 2.1 †
Wilkes-Barre ".....	- 5.8	- 4.3	+ 20.2	- 6.1	- 5.6	..... ‡
Williamsport ".....	+ 8.1	+ 3.4	- 44.4	+ 8.7	.....	..... ‡
Wilmington ".....	+ 1.2	- 1.4	- 44.5	+ 7.6	+12.8	- 3.6 †
York ".....	+ 2.9	- 0.3	- 35.2	- 1.6	.....	- 1.5 †

\* Includes Harrisburg, Wilkes-Barre and Williamsport areas. † Production (not sales). ‡ Includes Camden area. § Included in Allentown area.

**Brokers' loans and securities.** There was a rise of nearly 400 millions in brokers' loans in the four weeks ended July 17 to 5,813 millions, a new high record which surpassed the previous high point on March 20 by 20 millions. The increase in the past month was chiefly in loans for the account of the reporting New York city banks. More than 1,200 millions of the increase of approximately 1,600 millions in the past year, however, was in loans for the account of others, which include individuals, corporations and other private lenders.

Dow-Jones averages show advances in the prices of both industrial and rail stocks to points much higher than a year ago. The bond average, on the other hand, was 93.31 on July 20, as compared with 93.66 on June 20, and 96.20 a year earlier.

New capital issues (refunding excluded) declined from \$1,127,000,000 in May to \$773,000,000 in June, and in the latter month were somewhat lower than a year ago. The total for the first six months of the year was \$5,371,000,000, as compared with \$4,147,000,000 in the same period of 1928.

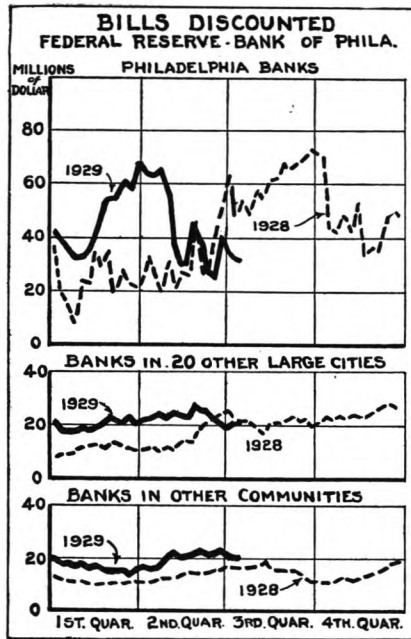
**Banking conditions in the Philadelphia district.** Member banks in twenty-one of the leading cities of the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District report an expansion in loans in the five weeks ended July 17; this increase was particularly marked in loans secured by stocks and bonds. Other loans, largely of a commercial character, also showed expansion despite the recent seasonal recession in business activity. Investment hold-

ings again were reduced, and the net demand deposits of reporting banks likewise declined, although government deposits were larger than those on June 12 as the result of a new issue of government securities in the middle of June. These changes resulted mainly from the operations of Philadelphia banks.

Reporting member banks in 21 leading cities (000,000's omitted)	July 17, 1929	Changes in	
		Five weeks	One year
Reported by 93 banks:			
Loans on securities.....	\$ 547	+ \$20	+ \$23
Other (largely commercial) loans.....	563	+ 6	+ 22
Reported by 105 banks:			
Total loans and discounts.....	1,174	+ 26	+ 46
Investments.....	431	- 6	- 62
Net demand deposits.....	852	- 13	- 16
Time deposits.....	450	- 1	- 47

Despite the recent rise in loans on securities, as reported by member banks in Philadelphia, there has been little change in comparison with a year ago; banks in smaller cities are principally responsible for an increase of more than 4 per cent in such loans over a year ago. In the case of commercial loans the reverse is true; Philadelphia banks report an increase of about 7 per cent over a year ago, while banks in outside cities show a small decline.

Although borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia in the four weeks ended July 17 show a spread of more than 20 millions between the high and low points, the net change in the period was an increase of only 2 millions. A gain to banks of the district in the settlements was approxi-



mately balanced by the withdrawal of currency. Cash reserves increased in larger amount than the note and deposit liabilities and the reserve ratio rose from 75.8 to 77.6 per cent; this ratio is nearly 18 per cent higher than a year ago.

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (Dollar figures in millions)	July 17, 1929	Changes in	
		Four weeks	One year
Bills discounted for member banks in—			
Philadelphia.....	\$ 31.6	+\$ 5.7	-\$23.5
20 other large cities.....	20.9	- 2.0	- .9
Other communities.....	21.1	- 1.6	+ 4.2
Total bills discounted.....	\$ 73.6	+\$ 2.1	-\$20.2
Bills bought.....	4.3	- 5.3	- 15.4
United States securities.....	16.4	0	- 5.2
Other securities.....	.3	- .1	+ .3
Total bills and securities.....	\$ 94.6	-\$ 3.3	-\$40.5
Federal reserve note circulation.....	151.7	+ 8.0	+ 23.6
Member banks' reserve deposits.....	137.4	+ 1.6	+ .6
Cash reserves.....	226.2	+ 13.2	+ 66.3
Reserve ratio.....	77.6%	+ 1.8%	+17.7%

**Commercial paper.** Sales of commercial paper to country banks declined

Commercial paper sales	Sales to		Total sales
	City banks	Country banks	
1929—			
Mar. ....	\$ 705,000	\$1,252,500	\$1,957,500
Apr. ....	135,000	1,355,000	1,490,000
May. ....	0	1,227,500	1,227,500
June. ....	2,780,000	827,500	3,607,500
1928—			
June. ....	1,175,000	1,155,000	2,330,000
1927—			
June. ....	4,293,000	3,655,000	7,948,000

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES in Pennsylvania	No. of plants reporting	EMPLOYMENT June, 1929		PAYROLLS June, 1929		AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS week ended			
		June index*	Per cent change since June, 1928	June index*	Per cent change since June, 1928	June 15, 1929	May 15, 1929		
								May, 1929	May, 1929
<b>All manufacturing industries (51).....</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>94.4</b>	<b>+ 9.0</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>+14.8</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>\$27.04</b>	<b>\$27.53</b>
<b>Metal products.....</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>94.1</b>	<b>+14.1</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>103.8</b>	<b>+22.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>29.46</b>	<b>30.33</b>
Blast furnaces.....	9	46.8	+ 2.6	- 2.5	51.6	+ 5.3	- 0.2	30.45	29.76
Steel wks. & rolling mills.....	44	82.2	+ 6.8	+ 0.2	92.1	+18.4	- 3.3	30.49	31.57
Iron and steel forgings.....	10	103.8	+30.6	+ 2.3	113.1	+30.0	-10.1	26.44	30.05
Structural iron work.....	10	111.9	+14.7	- 0.8	115.3	+14.2	- 4.7	28.44	29.59
Steam & hot waterhtg. ap. ....	17	96.7	+ 2.5	- 0.5	110.3	+ 3.7	- 1.5	30.98	31.22
Stoves and furnaces.....	8	76.2	- 1.0	- 0.1	67.8	- 8.3	- 0.9	25.39	25.53
Foundries.....	38	95.2	+13.1	+ 1.0	105.7	+22.3	- 0.3	29.93	30.31
Machinery and parts.....	45	118.8	+16.0	+ 1.0	135.7	+22.6	- 0.4	32.02	32.83
Electrical apparatus.....	15	193.2	+73.4	+22.3	216.8	+79.8	+20.5	25.57	25.88
Engines and pumps.....	10	101.5	+14.9	+ 1.7	110.9	+24.3	- 1.2	29.49	30.34
Hardware and tools.....	19	91.3	+12.7	- 2.8	95.5	+12.9	- 4.9	24.36	24.82
Brass and bronze prods. ....	12	93.0	- 0.5	- 5.6	95.8	+ 7.0	- 5.1	27.91	27.07
<b>Transportation equipment.....</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>83.4†</b>	<b>+ 9.4</b>	<b>- 4.5</b>	<b>84.5†</b>	<b>+ 9.5</b>	<b>- 6.0</b>	<b>29.47</b>	<b>30.00</b>
Automobiles.....	6	128.2	+31.8	+ 2.2	146.5	+29.2	+ 0.5	32.99	33.58
Auto. bodies and parts.....	13	99.4	+21.1	-13.0	85.0	+ 5.5	-14.4	27.64	28.13
Locomotives and cars.....	13	65.1	+10.2	- 4.4	65.1	+13.6	- 5.8	28.90	29.35
Railroad repair shops.....	6	90.0	+12.5	- 1.6	102.3	+27.4	- 4.6	30.10	30.99
Shipbuilding.....	4	47.9	+58.6	+ 6.4	47.4	+73.6	+ 1.3	28.70	30.20
<b>Textile products.....</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>109.6</b>	<b>+ 9.4</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>22.62</b>	<b>22.36</b>
Cotton goods.....	14	79.2	+ 6.6	- 0.6	78.1	+ 7.3	- 4.2	22.87	23.75
Woolens and worsteds.....	15	79.9	-10.2	- 2.9	83.8	- 0.4	- 1.2	22.32	21.93
Silk goods.....	51	97.7	- 1.7	- 3.3	104.8	+ 5.4	- 4.4	19.42	19.86
Textile dyeing & finishing.....	12	114.7	+ 0.2	0.0	125.2	+ 4.3	+ 1.4	26.29	25.71
Carpets and rugs.....	9	91.2	+ 7.7	- 0.3	88.8	+11.1	- 0.3	24.52	24.49
Hats.....	4	98.3	- 2.2	+ 1.0	102.7	+ 1.3	+ 9.3	26.62	24.64
Hosiery.....	30	125.8	+13.1	+ 0.1	161.0	+18.6	+ 1.8	27.57	27.11
Knit goods, Other.....	15	89.9	+ 2.6	+ 1.7	99.9	+11.6	- 1.1	19.66	20.21
Men's clothing.....	10	90.0	+ 3.4	- 3.6	94.9	+11.0	- 2.9	18.07	17.93
Women's clothing.....	10	109.9	+ 4.6	- 9.5	112.6	+ 5.0	-13.0	14.42	15.25
Shirts & furnishings.....	9	95.0	+ 3.9	+ 2.4	93.6	+ 5.5	+ 4.7	15.39	15.06
<b>Food and tobacco.....</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>+ 3.9</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>20.94</b>	<b>21.32</b>
Bread & bakery products.....	31	107.6	+ 1.5	- 1.0	104.4	+ 0.7	- 0.5	28.03	27.88
Confectionery.....	13	89.6	- 0.3	+ 1.7	105.2	+ 1.2	+ 2.4	20.80	20.65
Ice cream.....	11	111.1	+ 9.2	+20.1	111.1	+ 2.6	+11.5	29.58	31.82
Meat packing.....	14	100.2	+10.0	- 0.3	100.3	+14.6	+ 2.3	29.36	28.63
Cigars and tobacco.....	37	93.8	- 8.0	+ 5.4	93.2	- 9.5	+ 5.8	15.17	15.14
<b>Stone, clay &amp; glass products.....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>85.5</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>- 1.5</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>27.88</b>	<b>28.20</b>
Brick, tile & pottery.....	33	94.5	+ 4.9	+ 3.4	96.2	+11.5	+ 1.4	25.29	25.76
Cement.....	14	75.6	-13.9	+ 0.4	84.9	-14.0	+ 1.9	32.65	32.16
Glass.....	22	95.5	+ 5.1	+ 2.0	91.5	+ 6.0	- 1.1	25.69	26.51
<b>Lumber products.....</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>+ 6.1</b>	<b>+12.4</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>+10.9</b>	<b>+13.3</b>	<b>23.04</b>	<b>21.69</b>
Lumber and planing mills.....	17	80.3	+ 7.4	+23.0	79.0	+ 5.8	+13.5	20.20	21.89
Furniture.....	29	79.2	+13.5	+10.8	79.9	+24.5	+14.5	25.80	23.41
Wooden boxes.....	7	102.4	-10.6	- 3.4	120.8	-10.6	+ 8.1	21.25	17.01
<b>Chemical products.....</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>105.2</b>	<b>+ 8.8</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>+ 7.7</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>28.72</b>	<b>29.16</b>
Chemicals and drugs.....	27	91.3	+ 1.9	+ 0.2	98.6	+ 6.6	+ 3.4	28.86	27.97
Coke.....	3	119.5	- 5.7	+ 0.5	118.7	- 7.9	0.0	28.05	28.20
Explosives.....	3	134.2	+12.4	- 4.6	121.9	+ 7.2	- 7.6	25.10	25.89
Paints and varnishes.....	12	135.4	+ 8.9	+ 0.1	146.7	+10.9	+ 0.7	28.07	27.83
Petroleum refining.....	5	100.0	+18.3	+ 7.3	108.2	+16.1	+ 3.8	29.49	30.50
<b>Leather and rubber products.....</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>23.21</b>	<b>23.11</b>
Leather tanning.....	17	104.5	- 1.4	+ 2.8	108.3	- 0.6	+ 2.1	25.49	25.69
Shoes.....	22	90.6	+ 0.7	- 1.0	92.2	+ 4.7	+ 0.8	18.37	18.09
Leather products, Other.....	10	111.2	+10.0	- 3.2	100.4	+ 7.3	- 1.6	23.01	20.42
Rubber tires and goods.....	4	76.3	- 4.7	- 1.7	92.2	- 2.3	- 3.0	29.57	29.99
<b>Paper and printing.....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>111.1</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>32.84</b>	<b>30.98</b>
Paper and wood pulp.....	12	83.2	- 1.1	+ 2.6	94.9	- 2.3	+ 0.6	29.28	29.88
Paper boxes and bags.....	10	91.2	+ 2.7	- 1.9	107.5	+ 2.2	- 4.7	16.53	17.00
Printing and publishing.....	47	104.4	+ 2.0	- 1.2	120.5	+ 4.5	- 1.8	36.02	36.25
<b>Anthracite.....</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>- 6.7</b>	<b>-11.0</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>+17.2</b>	<b>-16.9</b>	<b>26.75</b>	<b>28.68</b>
<b>Bituminous coal.....</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>25.26</b>	<b>25.17</b>
<b>Construction &amp; Contracting.....</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>128.5</b>	<b>+61.2</b>	<b>+25.5</b>	<b>113.3</b>	<b>+53.7</b>	<b>+31.6</b>	<b>26.88</b>	<b>25.59</b>
<b>Street railways.....</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>- 6.5</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>34.06</b>	<b>34.63</b>
<b>Retail trade.....</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>
<b>Wholesale trade.....</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>

\* 1923-1925 average = 100. † Preliminary figures.

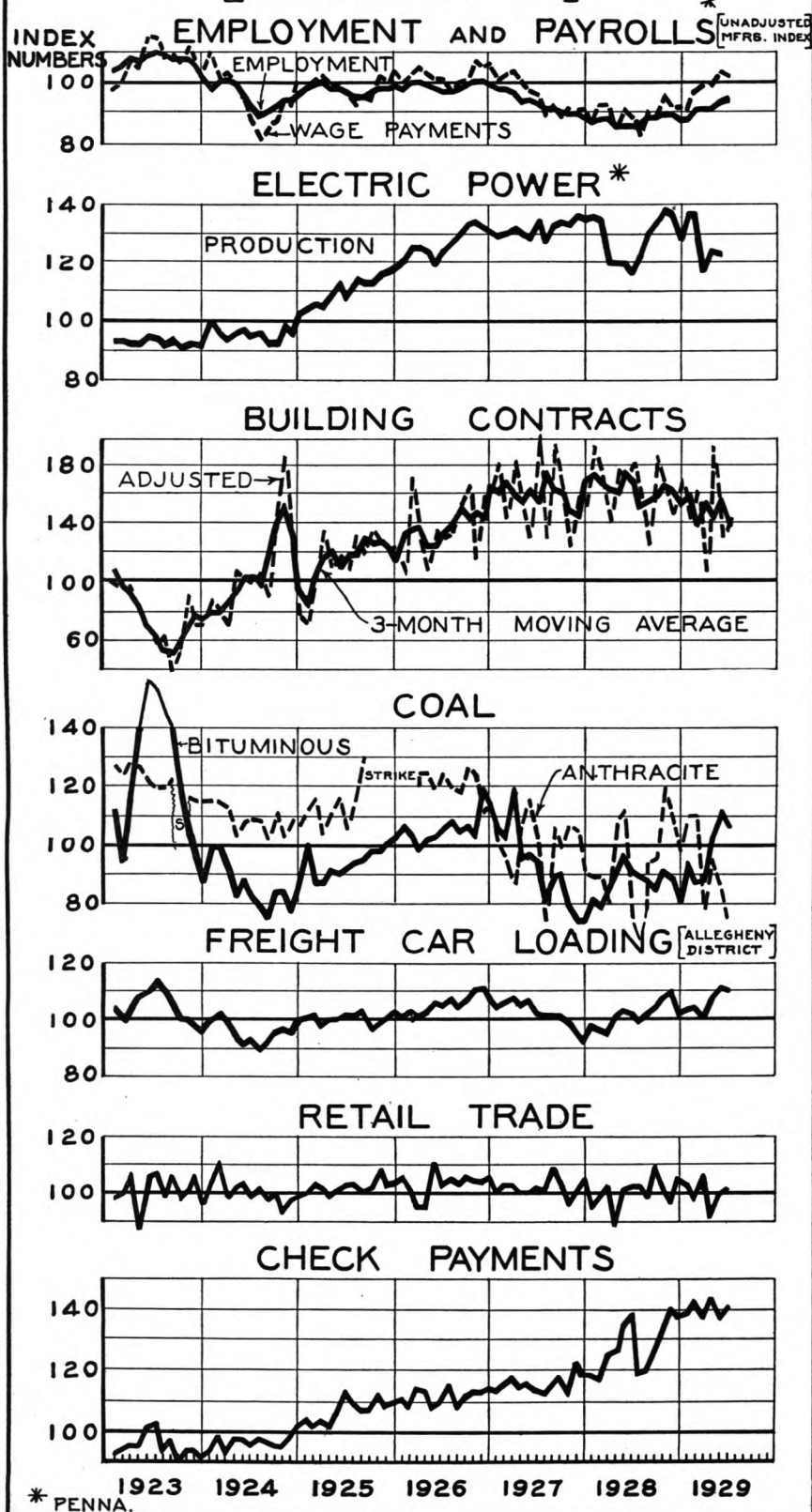
in June, but substantial purchases by city banks raised the total to a higher point than a year ago, although the sales of \$3,607,500 compared unfavorably with \$7,948,000 in June, 1927.

**Bankers' bills.** An increase from \$1,107,000,000 to \$1,113,000,000 during June took place in the volume of bankers' bills outstanding. This was due principally to the creation of a larger

# BUSINESS INDICATORS

PHILA. FED. RES. DISTRICT

[SEASONALLY ADJUSTED]



quantity of bills based on goods stored in or shipped between foreign countries.

Banks in the Philadelphia district increased their acceptance liabilities from \$14,641,000 to \$15,211,000, during June, but this figure is not far from a million dollars below that for a year ago.

## INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

### MANUFACTURING

Activity in the manufacturing industry in this district reflects a further summer let-down as is customary at this time. Some individual lines, however, continue active either seasonally or in response to a well-sustained demand for their products. The general level of prices for finished goods shows no pronounced deviation from last month's level, although the number of declines is greater than that of advances.

The volume of unfilled orders has naturally decreased since the middle of last month but is well ahead of that at the same time last year. This is especially true of metal products and textile manufactures, while advance business in building materials is smaller than a year ago. Orders on the books of leather and shoe producers show a substantial gain during the month but no change in comparison with a year ago.

The demand for workers by employers increased considerably in June, and the ratio of positions offered to applicants available rose nearly 37 per cent in comparison with a year before. The index, adjusted for seasonal changes, reached 82.3 per cent of the 1923-25 average, which was the highest since the peak attained in October, 1926.

Factory wage payments showed a decrease of one per cent from May to June, but were almost 15 per cent in excess of payrolls of last year. Employment, on the other hand, showed a gain of nearly one per cent in the month and 9 per cent in the year. Details are given in the accompanying table.

Manufacturing industries in Delaware reported a decline in both employment and wage disbursements between May and June. Payrolls in New Jersey also showed a slight decrease, while the number of wage earners increased a little during the same period.

The use of electrical energy by industries, while declining a little from May to June, was almost 23 per cent larger than in June, 1928. The total sales also declined about 5 per cent in the month but were more than 23 per cent above the quantity sold a year earlier. Similarly, the output of electric power by 12 systems in June decreased about 7 per cent but was nearly 19 per cent greater than in the same month last year. Details follow:

ELECTRIC POWER Philadelphia Federal Reserve District 12 systems	June, 1929 change from	
	June 1928	May 1929
Rated generator capacity . . . .	+ 1.8%	- 0.0%
Generated output . . . . .	+18.8 "	- 6.6 "
Hydro-electric . . . . .	-27.8 "	-46.7 "
Steam . . . . .	+67.1 "	+38.9 "
Purchased . . . . .	+25.7 "	-12.8 "
Sales of electricity . . . . .	+23.4 "	- 4.9 "
Lighting . . . . .	+ 4.8 "	- 6.9 "
Municipal . . . . .	+18.9 "	- 1.4 "
Residential and commercial Power . . . . .	+ 3.2 "	- 7.5 "
Municipal . . . . .	+19.4 "	- 2.8 "
Street cars and railroads . .	- 4.2 "	+ 0.7 "
Industries . . . . .	+10.3 "	- 6.5 "
Industries . . . . .	+22.9 "	- 2.0 "
All other sales . . . . .	+57.6 "	- 9.9 "

**Iron and Steel.** Business in iron and steel products continues exceptionally active, although in recent weeks a slight seasonal decline has been noted. Among the most active buyers are railroads, construction companies, and, to some extent, manufacturers. Foundries, automobile producers, and jobbers bought less actively than was the case last month. Prices generally are firm and show no pronounced change from the level of last month. Average quotations for pig iron, however, have shown some weakness in recent weeks, while those for finished steel continued unchanged.

Forward business on the books of reporting firms is substantially larger than that on the same date last year. Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation were 47,000 tons, or about one per cent smaller at the end of June than in May but were about 17 per cent larger than on the same date last year. Compared with the peak of this year reached in April, they were less than four per cent smaller. New orders for fabricated structural steel showed a marked gain from May to June and were noticeably larger than in June, 1928.

Plant operations, while continuing at a high level, have exhibited signs of seasonal let-down. Payrolls declined about one per cent from May to June but were about 22 per cent larger than in June, 1928, all industries making metal products reporting gains over a year earlier, except stoves and furnaces.

Daily production of pig iron in this district declined nearly six per cent between May and June, but was the largest

IRON AND STEEL Daily output	June, 1929 (gross tons)	Change from June, 1928	6 mos. of 1929 com- pared with 6 mos. of 1928
Pig iron			
United States . . . . .	123,255	+20.0%	+17.3%
Phila. Reserve Dis- trict . . . . .	11,473	+32.3 "	+31.3 "
Steel ingots			
United States . . . . .	195,255	+35.6 "	+17.5 "

Source: Iron Age

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daily tonnage recorded for June since 1923. The daily output in the country totaled 123,255 tons, which was a decline of about 2.4 per cent from May but was the largest daily tonnage recorded for that month. Production of steel ingots also declined somewhat during the month but exceeded the daily tonnage shown for June in the past eight years.

The output of steel castings in this district declined from May to June about 10 per cent but was more than 14 per cent ahead of the volume in June, 1928. Shipments also were smaller seasonally but were about 43 per cent larger than a year earlier. Unfilled orders, on the other hand, were much greater than in the preceding month and at the end of June, 1928.

Production of iron castings declined materially in the month and slightly as compared with a year before. Shipments were smaller in June than in May but were about 10 per cent larger than a year earlier. Orders on the books of the reporting firms decreased from May to June and were nearly 9 per cent less than at the end of June, 1928.

**Textiles.** Further evidence shows the usual seasonal decline in activity in most textiles. Demand for cotton manufactures varies from fair to poor, and sales have declined since the middle of last month. In comparison with a year ago, however, business in cotton piece goods is larger, while that in cotton yarns shows practically no change. The market for broad silks shows a similar decline in the month and in contrast with a year ago. Wool dealers report a larger volume of sales than was the case four weeks ago, but it has been smaller than that at the same time last year. Sales of woolen and worsted yarns have declined from last month's volume and from that of last year; the demand for piece goods, on the other hand, continues fair, and sales are larger than a year ago.

The demand for full-fashioned hosiery continues active and sales have increased further since last month; the market for seamless hosiery is only fair at best, sales having decreased during the month. This is also true of floor coverings, although in comparison with a year ago sales show little variation. Business in clothing shows a gain over the preceding month and year.

Prices of textiles generally show some weakness. According to the Fairchild Index, domestic and foreign wool fibers and their products have declined further. Quotations for spot cotton and cotton yarns have shown some strength recently, but prices of cotton piece goods have declined. Raw silk has advanced slightly in the month and the year, while silk piece goods showed recession in several instances. Rayon prices are lower than they were four weeks or a year ago.

Orders on the books of textile manufacturers have decreased since the mid-

dle of last month, as usual, but continued somewhat ahead of last year. Favorable comparisons with a year ago are particularly noticeable in orders for cotton manufactures, wool fabrics, floor coverings, and clothing, while advance business in broad silks is slightly smaller than a year earlier.

Plant operations generally show contraction. Exception to this is afforded by the producers of woolen and worsted fabrics, and clothing. The average rate of production for the whole industry, however, is appreciably higher than that prevailing last year. The volume of wages paid in June was over 9 per cent larger than in the same month last year, all lines sharing in this gain except those making wool manufactures.

Seasonal influences are reflected in the use of raw materials. Consumption of wool in this district declined about 15 per cent between May and June, and in the country the decrease amounted to 10 per cent. Likewise, mill takings of carpet wool showed a drop of nearly 20 per cent. Deliveries of silk fibers to American mills also were smaller in June than in May but were ahead of a year ago. This is also true of cotton fibers. According to the official estimate, the area of cotton in cultivation on July 1 totaled 48,457,000 acres or an increase of 3.2 per cent above that estimated on July 1, 1928.

Production of hosiery in this district declined about 8 per cent from May to June. Shipments, unfilled orders, and stocks also were smaller.

Stocks generally vary from moderate to light, although a number of reports indicate that they are rather heavy, largely as a result of additions during the month. In comparison with a year ago, inventories are smaller, full fashioned hosiery and floor coverings being exceptions. Stocks of raw silk were noticeably larger than a month ago or at the end of June, 1928. Cotton fibers on hand at the end of the month were smaller than on the same date last year.

**Leather and shoes.** Activity in the leather and shoe industry has been good for this season of the year. Sales of shoes have been in fair quantity and are a little larger than last month, but the rate of operations of reporting concerns remains practically unchanged at 75 per cent of capacity. Unfilled orders are larger than in the previous month, but are in the same volume as a year ago, while stocks are lighter than last year. The production of shoes in this district declined 6.4 per cent during June, as compared with a 2.7 per cent drop for the country.

In the tanning industry, sole leather has been in good demand. Prices have advanced and reports indicate that sales are greater than in the previous month. Unfilled orders also are larger and production has been speeded up. Both black and brown kid leather are being sold in

fairly good volume and reporting firms are operating at close to capacity. Prices are firm.

**Building materials.** The market for building materials is fair, although comparisons with a month and a year ago are not favorable, the demand in most lines being smaller. Prices generally remain fairly stable.

Orders on the books of reporting firms in general show little change in the past four weeks, but are somewhat smaller than on the same date last year. Unfilled orders for brick, cement, and slate have increased slightly during the month, while those for electrical supplies, lumber, and paint have declined. Decreases in advance business in contrast with a year ago are reported by firms making cement, lumber, paint, and slate.

Plant operations generally show little change since last month except in the manufacture of paint, which shows slight gains over a month ago. The present rate of operation for the entire industry averages about 70 per cent of capacity.

**Miscellaneous.** The demand for paper shows continued strength, sales having increased slightly in the month, though not in the year. Unfilled orders just about equal those of a month ago but are a trifle smaller than was the case at the same time last year. Productive activity has declined a little during the month but appears to be at a higher level than last year.

The cigar market is active and prices are fairly steady. Sales have increased since last month but show little change in comparison with a year ago; nor do unfilled orders show marked changes from those of last month and year. Factory activity has increased somewhat during the past four weeks but generally continues below the level of last year.

## BUILDING AND REAL ESTATE

Construction activity in this district is fairly well maintained, although the level does not measure up to that prevailing at the same time last year. The value of contracts awarded in June shows a slight increase as compared with May, instead of declining as is usual for that month. Residential contracts, however, declined further. Reading, Camden, and Trenton had large gains in contracts over a year earlier, while Philadelphia, Scranton, and Wilmington reported marked declines. The volume of construction early in July in this section, as measured by the daily average of contracts awarded, was considerably larger than in the same period last month and a year ago.

The proposed expenditure under building permits issued in sixteen cities of this district was somewhat smaller in June than in May and was substantially below that of June, 1928.

The number of deeds recorded and the value of mortgages increased slightly be-

Building operations	June, 1929 (000's omitted)	Change from June, 1928	6 mos. of 1929 com- pared with 6 mos. of 1928
Contract awards:			
Phila. Federal Reserve District			
Total.....	\$ 38,327	-21.3%	-14.2%
Residential.....	14,499	-39.4 "	-25.5 "
United States			
Total.....	545,891	-16.1 "	-12.0 "
Residential.....	189,809	-26.5 "	-27.9 "
Permits issued:			
Phila. Federal Reserve Dist. (16 cities).....	16,246	-24.8 "	- 3.7 "
United States (579 cities).....	265,148	-28.6 "	.....

Source: F. W. Dodge Corp. & S. W. Strauss & Co.

tween May and June but were materially smaller than in June, 1928. The number of writs for sheriff's sales of properties in Philadelphia during July was appreciably larger than in June or in any July in the past ten years.

## COAL

**Anthracite.** Conditions in the anthracite industry have been quiet during the past month. Nearly all reporting collieries have reduced their rate of operations and production in Pennsylvania in the four weeks ended July 13 totaled 4,491,000 tons, a decline of 11.7 per cent from the previous four weeks but an increase of 11.3 per cent over the output during the same period a year ago. The market has been dull, the demand for

domestic sizes being especially poor. Prices of steam sizes have declined a little, while those of domestic sizes have increased.

**Bituminous.** Activity in the bituminous fields has declined slightly during the past month, chiefly in sympathy with seasonal recessions in the manufacturing industry. The market is poor and is much weaker than a month ago. This condition is reflected in lower prices. For the four weeks ended July 13, the output for the country reached 35,408,000 tons, a decrease of 1.8 per cent compared with the preceding four weeks but an increase of 9.7 per cent over the same period last year.

## DISTRIBUTION

Distribution of commodities generally shows about the usual variations that occur at this season, and the volume seems to be close to that in the corresponding periods of recent years.

Railroad shipments in the Allegheny district, after reaching in May the highest level, with one exception, since 1923, turned slightly downward in June, when corrections are made for seasonal changes. In the four weeks ended July 13, however, total freight car loadings increased about one per cent from the previous four weeks and were almost 10 per cent larger than in the same period last year. The movement of merchandise and miscellaneous commodities showed a slight decline in the latest four weeks, but an increase of about 8 per cent in comparison

RETAIL TRADE Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	Comparison of net sales		Comparison of stocks		Rate of turn-over, Jan. 1 to June 30		Accounts receivable at end of June compared with year ago	Collections during June compared with year ago
	June 1929 compared with June 1928		June 30, 1929		1928	1929		
	(Monthly total)	(Daily avg.)	Jan. 1 to June 30, 1929, with Jan. 1 to June 30, 1928	with June 30, 1928, with May 31, 1929				
All reporting stores.....	- 1.7%	+ 2.2%	- 0.5%	- 8.3%	- 5.0%	1.67	1.85	.....
Department stores.....	- 2.5 "	+ 1.4 "	- 1.2 "	- 9.0 "	- 4.4 "	1.61	1.80	.....
in Philadelphia.....	- 4.2 "	- 0.4 "	- 2.2 "	-10.9 "	- 3.4 "	1.74	2.02	.....
outside Philadelphia.....	+ 1.9 "	+ 6.0 "	+ 1.0 "	- 4.9 "	- 6.3 "	1.39	1.47	+ 9.4%
Men's apparel stores.....	+ 0.9 "	+ 5.0 "	+ 0.6 "	- 2.6 "	-11.1 "	1.40	1.38	.....
in Philadelphia.....	- 0.9 "	+ 2.7 "	+ 5.3 "	- 1.8 "	-17.8 "	1.68	1.65	.....
outside Philadelphia.....	+ 2.5 "	+ 6.4 "	- 3.5 "	- 3.0 "	- 6.0 "	1.21	1.17	- 8.7 "
Women's apparel stores.....	+ 4.0 "	+ 8.2 "	+ 6.6 "	+ 4.5 "	-12.9 "	3.09	3.14	+14.4 "
in Philadelphia.....	+ 5.0 "	+ 9.2 "	+ 8.0 "	+ 5.4 "	-13.4 "	3.31	3.37	+16.1 "
outside Philadelphia.....	- 2.3 "	+ 1.8 "	- 2.4 "	+ 0.9 "	-11.1 "	2.13	2.02	+ 7.1 "
Shoe stores.....	+ 6.3 "	+11.0 "	+ 2.1 "	- 5.2 "	- 4.1 "	1.32	1.40	+ 8.6 "
Credit stores.....	- 4.0 "	- 0.3 "	- 4.1 "	-14.2 "	- 0.5 "	1.37	1.53	+ 7.1 "

WHOLESALE TRADE Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	Net sales, June, 1929, compared with		Stocks, June 30, 1929, compared with		Accounts outstanding, June 30, 1929 compared with		Ratio of accounts outstanding to sales June 1929	Collections, June, 1929, compared with	
	June 1928	May 1929	June 30, 1928	May 31, 1929	June 30, 1928	May 31, 1929		June 1928	May 1929
Boots and shoes.....	-10.4%	- 8.0%	.....	.....	-12.3%	- 3.9%	422.1%	- 8.9%	- 6.6%
Drugs.....	- 2.6 "	- 3.8 "	.....	.....	-16.9 "	- 2.8 "	136.7 "	+ 3.4 "	- 0.5 "
Dry goods.....	+ 0.8 "	+ 7.9 "	-17.1%	- 8.0%	- 7.6 "	- 0.7 "	295.4 "	- 8.1 "	+ 9.2 "
Groceries.....	- 0.6 "	- 2.5 "	- 0.5 "	- 6.5 "	- 1.1 "	+ 1.2 "	111.0 "	+ 0.2 "	+ 4.2 "
Hardware.....	- 1.6 "	- 4.0 "	- 6.0 "	- 4.3 "	+ 0.5 "	- 2.7 "	200.7 "	- 5.7 "	- 0.4 "
Jewelry.....	- 4.0 "	- 2.3 "	- 9.0 "	+ 0.0 "	+ 1.7 "	+ 3.2 "	449.8 "	+30.0 "	+ 1.8 "
Paper.....	+ 1.8 "	- 7.0 "	- 5.9 "	- 0.0 "	+ 5.1 "	- 2.3 "	145.0 "	+14.7 "	+ 9.2 "

with that in the corresponding period last year.

**Wholesale trade.** Wholesale and jobbing generally is fair, according to early reports, and prices show little change except for a few advances in groceries.

Sales in June were almost 3 per cent smaller than in May and about 1 per cent less than in June, 1928, the latter being chiefly attributable to the fact that there were fewer business days in June this year than last. Only paper and dry goods reported gains over a year earlier. Dealers in dry goods also had larger sales than in the preceding month, while the other six lines reported declines.

Inventories held by wholesalers and jobbers in the main were smaller than at the end of June, 1928. Accounts outstanding also were smaller, except for hardware, jewelry, and paper.

**Retail trade.** Preliminary reports show that retail sales aggregate a fair volume for this time, and prices continue steady except for a few instances of recession. In comparison with four weeks ago, business at retail has been somewhat less active, a fact which is to be expected as summer advances.

Sales in June increased nearly 3 per cent from May, but were almost 2 per

cent smaller than in June, 1928. Computed on a daily basis, however, sales were more than 2 per cent above the volume a year earlier. Declines in total sales from a year ago were reported by department and men's apparel stores in Philadelphia, women's apparel stores outside Philadelphia, and by credit stores; on the daily basis, all the reporting lines showed gains with the exception of slight decreases in Philadelphia department stores and in credit stores. Retail sales in the first half of this year were a trifle smaller than in the corresponding period last year.

Stocks carried by reporting retailers declined further in the month and were appreciably smaller than at the end of June, 1928. Both accounts receivable and collections generally were larger than at the same time last year. The rate of turnover was higher in the first six months this year than in the same period last year.

### AGRICULTURE

Agricultural conditions in this district are fairly good despite variations in the weather. The drought that occurred in the earlier part of the month was relieved by rains, but lately dry weather again has been widespread.

The yield of wheat, corn, rye, and tobacco in this section is estimated to be larger than that of last year, but in the country it is reported to be smaller with the exception of tobacco. Oats, potatoes and most of the truck crops, however, show declines.

Hay crops are reported as fair, while pasturage is not as good as it was last year. Livestock reports indicate that dairy cows, calves and heifers are in better condition than usual at this time of year, while the condition of horses, colts, and hogs is reported as being slightly less favorable. The supply of farm labor seems to be adequate at the present time, with wages unchanged.

Crop estimates (Figures in thousands of units)	1928 yield	Estimate July 1, 1929
<b>Phila. Fed. Res. Dist.</b>		
Corn..... bus.	45,500	53,235
Wheat..... "	16,140	19,808
Oats..... "	21,770	20,311
Potatoes (white)... "	30,208	26,531
Hay..... tons	3,353	3,019
Tobacco..... lbs.	49,580	52,416
<b>United States</b>		
Corn..... bus.	2,835,678	2,662,050
Wheat..... "	902,191	833,869
Oats..... "	1,448,677	1,247,147
Potatoes (white)... "	464,483	379,290
Hay..... tons	92,983	98,991
Tobacco..... lbs.	1,378,139	1,492,508

## BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE PHILADELPHIA FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	Prices	Demand	Unfilled orders	Operations	Stocks
Retail trade .....	Unchanged, though a few declines	Fair, some decline			Smaller
<b>Wholesale trade:</b>					
Drugs .....	Firm, unchanged	Fair, little change			
Dry goods .....	Unchanged	Only fair, declined			Smaller
Groceries .....	Firm, some advances	Active, losses offset gains			Smaller
Hardware .....	Unchanged	Fair, declined			Smaller
Jewelry .....	Unchanged	Fair, unchanged			Little change
Paper .....	Unchanged	Active, some gains			Little change
Shoes .....	Unchanged	Fair, unchanged			
Lumber .....	Some declines	Fair, little change			Smaller
Wool .....	Declined	Fair to poor, increased			Unchanged
Cotton yarns .....	Declined though lately show strength	Fair to poor, declined			Larger
<b>Manufacturing:</b>					
Iron and steel products .....	Firm, some decline in pig iron	Active despite seasonal let-down	Larger than a year ago	Declined slightly	Little change
Cotton goods .....	Declined	Fair to poor, declined	Smaller	Declined	Larger
Silk goods .....	Some declines	Fair to poor, declined	Smaller	Declined	Larger
Wool goods .....	Some declines	Fair, little change	Larger	Increased	Smaller
Wool yarns .....	Declined	Fair, declined	Some decline	Declined slightly	Smaller
Clothing .....	Little change	Fair, increased	Larger	Increased slightly	Unchanged
Hosiery — full-fashioned .....	Little change	Good, increased	Little change	Declined	Little change
Hosiery—seamless ..	Little change	Fair, decreased	Smaller	Declined	Little change
Carpets and rugs ..	Firm, a few advances	Only fair, declined	Slightly larger	Little change	Little change
Shoes .....	Firm, little change	Active, increased	Larger	Little change	Smaller
Leather—					
Sole .....	Higher	Active, increased	Larger	Increased	Smaller
Black kid .....	Unchanged	Fair, unchanged	Unchanged	Little change	Smaller
Colored kid .....	Unchanged	Fair, some gain	Unchanged	Little change	Smaller
Paper .....	Unchanged	Fair, some gain	Unchanged	Declined slightly	Smaller
Cigars .....	Firm, little change	Active, increased	Slightly larger	Increased	Smaller
Brick .....	Unchanged	Fair, some decline	Larger	Declined slightly	Little change
Lumber—mills .....	Unchanged	Fair, some decline	Smaller	Declined	Little change
Slate .....	Steady, some weakness	Fair, some decline	Slight gain	Little change	Little change
Paint .....	Unchanged	Fair, some gain	Smaller	Little change	Smaller
Cement .....	Firm, little change	Fair, little change	Larger	Some gain	Smaller
Building .....		Some improvement	Permits declined	Contracts increased	
Anthracite .....	Higher on domestic but lower on steam sizes	Slow, declined		Declined	
Bituminous coal .....	Lower	Quiet, declined		Declined	