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THE BUSINESS REVIEW

THIRD FEDERAL
PHILADELPHIA



RESERVE DISTRICT
APRIL 1, 1933

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FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of PHILADELPHIA

Business and Financial Conditions in the United States

The course of business in the latter part of February and the first half of March was largely influenced by the development of a crisis in banking, culminating in the proclamation on March 6 of a national banking holiday by the President of the United States. Production and distribution of commodities declined by a substantial amount during this period, but showed some increase after banking operations were resumed in the middle of March.

Production and employment. Volume of output at factories and mines, which usually increases at this season, showed little change from January to February, and declined considerably in the first half of March. In the steel and automobile industries output decreased between the middle of February and the middle of March; subsequently some of the automobile plants which had been closed resumed operations, while activity at steel mills showed little change. In February output at cotton and woolen mills continued at the level prevailing in January, while at silk mills activity

declined. Shoe production increased by more than the usual seasonal amount.

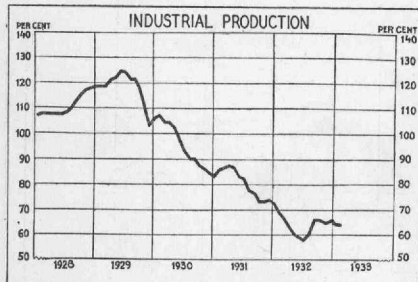
Reports from important industrial states indicate that factory employment increased between the middle of January and the middle of February, as is usual at this season.

Construction contracts awarded up to March 15, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, indicate that for the first quarter of the year the total value of contracts will show a considerable decline from the fourth quarter of 1932.

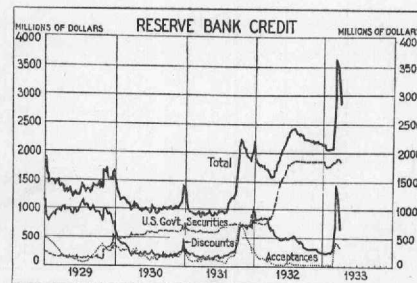
Distribution. Freight traffic, which usually increases at this season, showed little change from January to February, and declined considerably in the first two weeks of March. Department store sales in the country as a whole were at about the same rate in February as in January, but were substantially smaller in areas affected by suspension of banking operations; early in March sales were sharply reduced but with the reopening of banks showed some increase.

Wholesale prices. Wholesale commodity prices declined somewhat further in February. In the early part of March the commodity exchanges were closed; when they reopened on March 15 and 16, prices of grains, cotton, silk, non-ferrous metals, hides, and sugar were substantially above those prevailing at the beginning of the month; subsequently prices of many of these commodities declined somewhat.

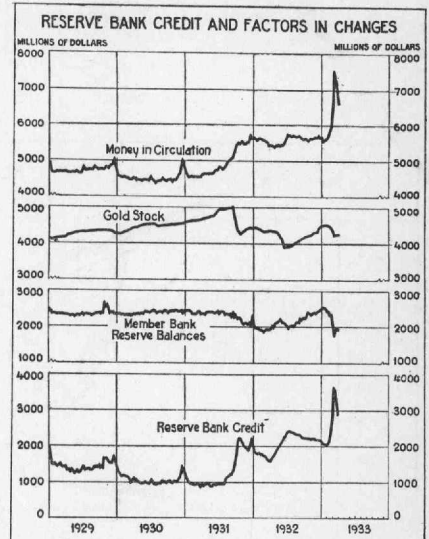
Bank credit. During February member banks in leading cities were subjected to withdrawals of deposits on a large scale, reflecting in part withdrawals of balances by interior banks from their city correspondents and in part withdrawals of currency by the public. As a consequence, net de-



Index number of industrial production adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average = 100.)



Wednesday figures for 12 Federal reserve banks. Latest figures are for March 22.



Wednesday figures. Latest figures are for March 22.

mand deposits of these banks declined by \$1,306,000,000 during the month, and their time deposits by \$360,000,000. In order to meet these withdrawals the banks reduced their loans by \$539,000,000, partly through the sale of acceptances to the reserve banks, and their investments by \$363,000,000. They also increased considerably their borrowings at the reserve banks. March figures for member banks are incomplete.

At the Federal Reserve Banks the banking crisis manifested itself between February 1 and March 4 in a domestic demand for \$1,833,000,000 of currency, including about \$300,000,000 of gold and gold certificates and in a foreign demand for about \$300,000,000 of gold. As a consequence, the reserve ratio of the Federal Re-

serve Banks declined from 65.6 per cent to 45.0 per cent. This reflected a loss of \$655,000,000 in reserves and an increase of \$1,436,000,000 in Federal reserve note circulation, offset in part by a decrease of \$486,000,000 in deposit liabilities.

Between March 4 and March 22, there was a return flow to the reserve banks of \$558,000,000 of gold coin and gold certificates and of \$319,000,000 of other currency, and the reserve ratio advanced to 55.5 per cent. Discounts for member banks, which had increased to \$1,432,000,000 by March 4, declined to \$671,000,000 on March 22.

Money rates in the open market advanced during the banking crisis, and on the resumption of business after

the banking holiday, rates were at considerably higher levels than those prevailing on March 3. Subsequently rates declined as more funds became available to the market. On March 3, the discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was raised from 2½ to 3½ per cent, and on March 4 there was a similar increase at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The New York reserve bank's buying rate on bills was raised by successive steps from ½ of 1 per cent on February 26, for bills of the shorter maturities, to 3¼ per cent on March 3. On March 13 the rate for these maturities was raised to 3½ per cent; subsequently the rate was reduced and on March 22 was 2 per cent.

Business and Financial Conditions in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

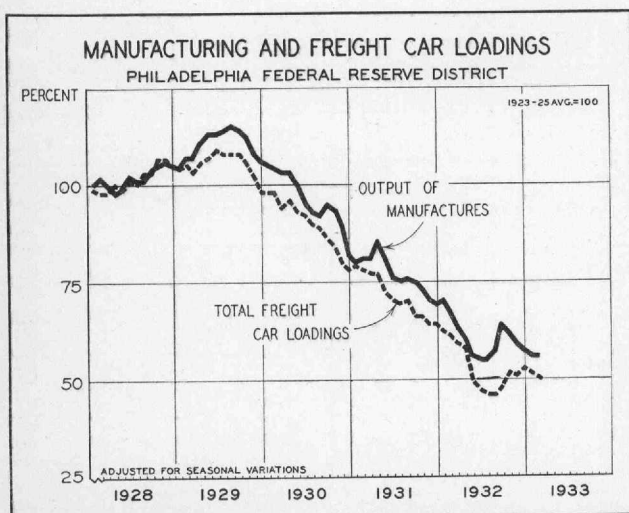
Industrial conditions during February showed a marked seasonal improvement but, contrary to the seasonal trend, it did not continue through the first half of March chiefly because of the nation-wide emergency resulting in the summary closing of banks for over a week. The increase in the output of factory products was virtually up to the usual gain for February and since the middle of March further seasonal increases have been in evidence. Production of coal showed exceptional gains, the volume exceeding that of last year. Total building contracts awarded reached an extraordinarily low level and there has been little of even seasonal improvement since

February.

Indicators of distributive activity vary. Sales at retail and wholesale declined instead of showing an increase as they usually do in February and were greatly affected by banking disturbances in early March, although the extent of the declines in weekly sales does not seem to have been as severe in this district as in the country at large. Collections have slowed down considerably. Automobile distributors report a seasonal upturn in February while sales of life insurance showed less than usual increase. Shipments of commodities by rail and truck maintained the ordinary rate of activity, though the volume of deliveries con-

tinued smaller than in recent years. The number of business liquidations declined while the amount of liabilities increased sharply from January to February.

Manufacturing. Activity in the manufacturing industry during February showed a definite seasonal expansion; sales of finished goods and plant operations increased as they usually do in comparison with January. But in early March this improvement was greatly hindered by the closing of banks. In addition to the interference with meeting of payrolls and settling of accounts, orders for goods were canceled or withheld for the time being,



Source: American Railway Association

Business Indicators Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

thus creating a period of considerable uncertainty from March 4 to about March 15. Since the opening of the banks, the manufacturing situation has undergone a noticeable change for the better. Inquiries and actual orders for factory products have increased, and the general business sentiment has improved materially.

Despite some local increases in commodity prices, reports show further declines in February. Such sharp advances as occurred in the first two weeks of March probably reflected in part temporary disturbances incident to the closing of commodity exchanges, since in the latter part of March quotations showed weakness. Collections declined appreciably as compared with a month ago and continued smaller than last year. Stocks of both finished goods and raw materials held by representative factories of this district showed further reductions in the month and as compared with recent years. It appears that in most instances manufacturing concerns continue in a fairly strong statistical position.

Factory employment in this district, comprising eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Delaware, showed an increase of 2 per cent and payrolls over 3 per cent in February as compared with January. These gains were somewhat larger than usual. It is estimated that the average employment of all factories in the district during February totaled about 480,000 workers, drawing an average weekly payroll of \$6,457,000. Compared with a year ago employment was 15 per cent and payrolls 31 per cent lower.

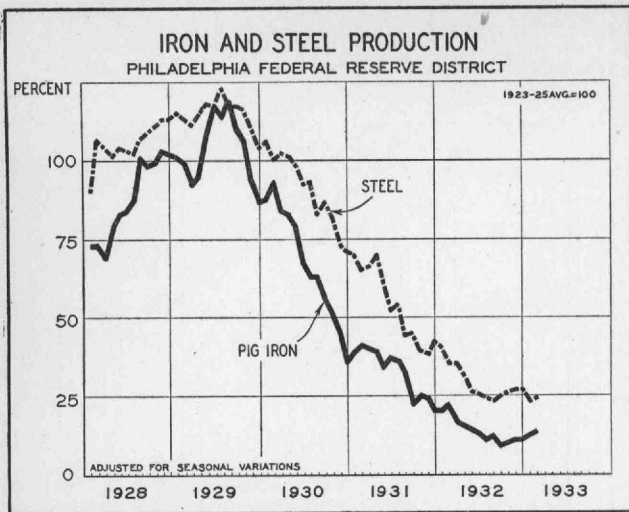
An analysis of reports covering more than 1,300 manufacturing plants in Pennsylvania employing about 220,000 wage earners shows that in February 50 per cent of these plants worked five days a week and 47 per cent operated from forty to fifty hours a week. More than 76 per cent worked from four to six days a week and from thirty to sixty hours a week. About 15 per cent operated from one to three days a week. Twenty-six plants, or less than 2 per cent of the total analyzed, had only a maintenance force of 364 workers such as watchmen and caretakers, while forty-five plants, or 3.2 per cent of the total, were entirely closed.

Output of manufacturers during February showed a gain of almost 2 per cent over January, which was about the usual percentage increase for this period. The February index of productive activity was nearly 56 per cent

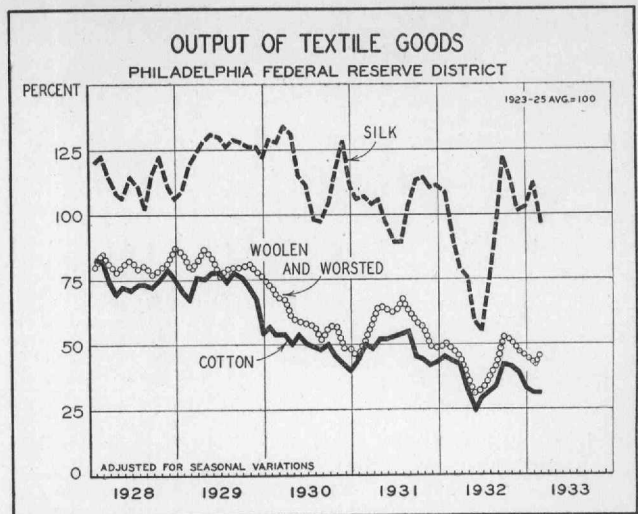
	Index numbers expressed in percentages of 1923-1925 average, which is taken as 100							
	Adjusted for seasonal variation					Not adjusted		
	Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933	Feb. 1933	Percentage comparison		Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933	Feb. 1933
				Month ago	Year ago			
Productive activity								
Manufacturing—total 67.3 55.9r 55.6p - 0.5 -17.4 -18.9 68.0 55.6r 56.7p								
Metal products..... 43.1 28.5r 27.7 - 2.8 -35.7 -39.9 43.5 27.3r 28.0								
Textile products..... 74.5 75.2 72.4p - 3.7 - 2.8 - 3.8 80.4 77.9 78.5p								
Transportation equipment..... 59.7 34.0r 31.6 - 7.1 -47.1 -45.1 60.4 33.9r 31.9								
Food products..... 71.7 66.1 66.3p + 0.3 - 7.5 - 9.9 70.9 64.9 65.8p								
Tobacco and products..... 83.8 78.9 81.4 + 3.2 - 2.9 - 5.9 70.8 65.2 68.8								
Building materials..... 33.5 15.9r 16.6 + 4.4 -50.4 -54.1 27.8 13.6r 14.4								
Chemicals and related products..... 95.3 87.9 90.8p + 3.3 - 4.7 - 8.2 94.6 86.2 90.3p								
Leather and products..... 108.6 95.4 104.7 + 9.7 - 3.6 - 2.0 115.5 99.2 111.3								
Paper and printing..... 94.5 78.6r 78.2 - 0.5 -17.2 -15.9 94.5 78.6r 78.2								
Electric power output..... 182.9 159.2 159.8 + 0.4 -12.6 -12.3 193.9 168.8 169.4								
Elec. pwr. used by industries..... 127.8 112.5 114.8 + 2.0 -10.2 -11.2 126.5 109.1 113.7								
Factory employment Penna. + 1.6* -15.3* -16.2* 69.2 57.7 58.6								
Factory wage payments Penna. + 3.1* -32.6* -34.7* 48.7 31.8 32.8								
Coal mining								
Anthracite..... 56.5 52.1 61.9 +18.8 + 9.6 + 4.9 60.6 56.5 65.9								
Bituminous..... 58.0 53.0 64.0 +20.8 +10.3 + 4.5 62.0 57.0 68.0								
47.6 46.8 49.2 + 5.1 + 3.4 + 7.9 51.9 53.3 53.6								
Building and real estate								
Contracts awarded†—total..... 37.9 37.0 24.8 -33.0 -34.6 -19.3 30.7 28.5 20.1								
Contracts awarded†—residential..... 27.5 12.1 11.0 - 9.1 -60.0 -56.5 19.8 9.7 7.9								
Permits for building..... 11.8 9.1 8.7 - 4.4 -26.3 -28.8 9.1 5.2 6.7								
Mortgages recorded in Phila..... 27.0 28.3 18.7 -33.9 -30.7 -50.0 29.2 32.6 20.2								
Real estate deeds recorded in Philadelphia..... 58.5 62.2 53.7 -13.7 - 8.2 -14.5 58.5 58.5 53.7								
Exclusive of Sheriff deeds (1930=100)..... -17.0* -13.1* - 0.1* 78.5 82.2 68.2								
Sheriff deeds (1930=100)..... + 2.9* +15.8* + 6.6* 137.0 154.3 158.7								
Writs for Sheriff sales in Phila..... \$27.7 918.6 1244.9 +35.5 +50.4 +32.4 844.3 1056.4 1269.8								
Distribution								
Retail trade—sales..... 67.6 50.7 48.9 - 3.6 -27.7 -26.0 55.8 41.6 40.1								
Retail trade—stocks..... 67.4 56.7 54.2 - 4.4 -19.6 64.7 50.4 52.0								
Wholesale trade—sales..... 64.9 58.5 56.0p - 4.3 -13.7 -14.8 59.0 51.9 51.3p								
Wholesale trade—stocks..... 70.0 59.4 57.8 - 2.7 -17.4 69.9 58.4 57.6								
Freight car loadings (Allegheny district)..... 61.3 50.9 50.4 - 0.1 -17.8 -17.7 57.6 45.8 47.4								
Life insurance sales..... 109.1 111.9 95.9 -14.3 -12.1 -19.4 125.5 99.6 110.3								
New passenger auto registrations..... 70.7 60.9 58.2 - 4.4 -17.7 -22.5 52.3 32.9 43.1								
Business liquidations								
Number..... - 7.0* + 0.6* -11.6* 219.9 237.9 221.3								
Amount of liabilities..... +64.2* -10.2* -47.4* 319.9 175.0 237.3								
Payment of accounts								
Check payments..... 70.0 60.0 66.1 +10.2 - 5.6 -13.3 70.7 61.2 66.8								
Rate of collections (actual, not indexes)								
Retail trade..... -17.4* - 4.6* 26.3 30.4 25.1								
Wholesale trade..... - 4.9* - 6.8* 56.1 55.0 52.3								
Banking and credit								
(000,000's omitted in dollar figures)								
Feb. 1932 Nov. 1932 Dec. 1932 Jan. 1933 Feb. 1933 Per cent change from								
Month ago Year ago								
Reporting member banks								
Loans to customers..... \$702 \$596 \$590 \$570 \$565 - 0.9 - 19.5								
Open market loans and investments..... 473 528 529 513 507 - 1.2 + 7.2								
All member banks—net demand and time deposits 2,002 1,977 1,980 1,987 1,963 - 1.2 - 1.9								
Bankers' acceptances outstanding 16.0 13.5 12.3 11.1 10.4 - 6.3 - 35.0								
Federal Reserve Bank								
Bills discounted..... 122 48 51 47 54 +14.9 - 55.7								
Other bills and securities..... 67 144 143 140 142 + 1.4 +111.9								
Reserve ratio..... 59.7% 56.8% 57.3% 58.2% 57.0% - 2.1 - 4.5								

* Computed from data unadjusted for seasonal variation.
† 3-month moving daily average.

p—Preliminary.
r—Revised.



Source: Iron Age



of the 1923-25 average, after adjusting it for seasonal changes and for the number of working days. The table below gives the revised indexes of factory output in this district for 1932 and for the first two months of this year. This revision was necessitated by certain minor changes in some of the industries included in the groups comprising transportation equipment, building materials, paper and printing, food, and metal products.

Revised indexes— output of manufactures Philadelphia Federal Reserve District 1923-25 = 100	Adjusted for seasonal variations	Not adjusted
1932—January.....	70.2	69.1
February.....	67.3	68.0
March.....	63.0	63.6
April.....	60.2	58.9
May.....	55.5	54.6
June.....	54.6	54.6
July.....	55.4	53.6
August.....	57.3	57.0
September.....	63.6	65.0
October.....	62.3	64.6
November.....	59.3	60.5
December.....	57.1	55.4
1933—January.....	55.9	55.6
February.....	55.6p	56.6p

p—Preliminary.

Exceptional increases during February occurred in the output of tobacco and chemical products, building materials, and musical or related instruments. Gains in the production of metal and textile products, on the other hand, were not as large as were to be normally anticipated, while activity in the transportation equipment industry declined rather sharply.

Among the important individual industries listed in the table on the last page, sixteen out of thirty-one showed more than seasonal improvement in productive activity from January to

February. Unusual gains were especially pronounced in such industries as woolens and worsteds, cement, pig iron, shoes, explosives, paints and varnishes. Comparisons with last year continued unfavorable in all lines with the exception of silk manufactures, underwear, meat packing, and explosives.

Output of electric power by nine central stations showed slightly more than its usual seasonal gain. Total sales of electricity also increased 3 per cent as compared with January but were 10 per cent below last year. Consumption of electrical energy by industries showed a gain of 2 per cent over the increase that commonly occurs between January and February; in comparison with a year ago, however, the industrial use of electric power was 10 per cent smaller.

Building and real estate. Activity in the building and contracting industry showed a further decline in February. As evidenced by reports from 1,061 firms in Pennsylvania, employment declined 3 per cent and payrolls 11 per cent from January to February. Operating time in this period was reduced 13 per cent, the sharpest curtailment occurring in building operations and the construction of streets and highways.

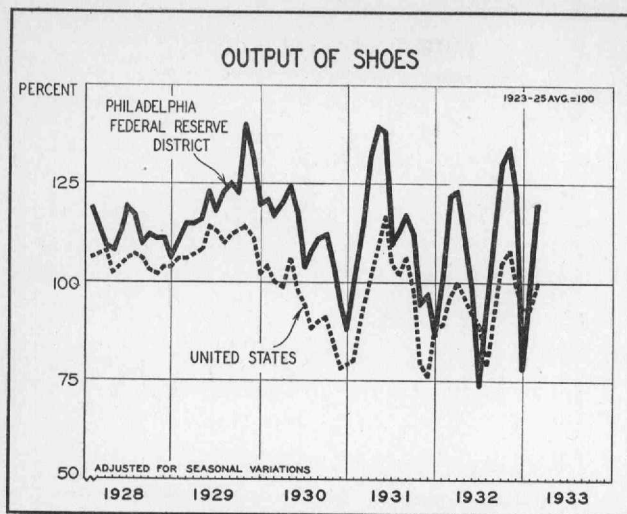
Aggregate awards of building contracts showed a sharp decline from January to February instead of the usual seasonal increase. Awards for residences decreased nearly 15 per cent in this period and with the exception of last December, were the smallest of any month in recent years. The average of total awards for the three months, from December through February, was 35 per cent lower than a

year ago, reflecting chiefly depressed industrial conditions. In early March the dollar volume of contract awards declined further, with all classes of construction showing substantial reductions.

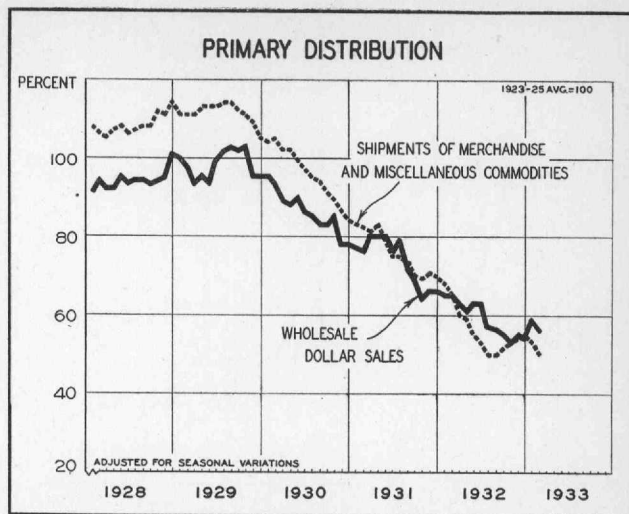
Estimated cost of contemplated building under permits issued in 17 cities of this district showed less than the usual rate of gain from January to February, and was 26 per cent smaller than in February of last year. Figures for the two months ended February 28 showed that the dollar volume of building permits was 29 per cent smaller this year than last.

Developments in the real estate situation continue to reflect unusual quiet. Conveyances, exclusive of sheriff deeds, showed a further decline in February and were considerably smaller than in the same month last year. The value of mortgages recorded in Philadelphia showed an unusually sharp decline in February and was only about two-thirds of the volume reported a year earlier. Although foreclosures continue exceptionally numerous, the number of writs issued for forced sales in March showed an unexpected decline as compared with February and was 17 per cent less than in the same month last year.

Coal. Demand for anthracite has slackened somewhat during recent weeks, owing partly to seasonal influences. Colliery output in February, which averaged about 182,000 tons daily, was substantially larger than in the preceding month and exceeded the volume of a year ago by 10 per cent. In early March the weekly out-



Source: United States Bureau of the Census



Source: American Railway Association

put of mines declined seasonally. Shipments of hard coal increased during February and showed a pronounced gain as compared with the same month of 1932. Comparative figures covering both the output and shipments of anthracite during the two months ended February 28 indicate a somewhat higher rate of activity this year than last. Wholesale prices of hard coal showed no change from January to February, but were about 6 per cent lower than in February of last year.

Production of bituminous coal in Pennsylvania showed a slight gain in February, contrary to seasonal expectation. As compared with February of last year, colliery output, which averaged 255,000 tons daily, was about 3 per cent larger. In the first fortnight of March production declined seasonally. Shipments showed a gain during February and compared favorably with those of a year earlier. Wholesale prices of soft coal in the country declined fractionally from January to February and were nearly 6 per cent lower than a year ago.

Distribution. Total retail sales of representative department, apparel, shoe and credit stores during February declined almost 4 per cent instead of showing the usual seasonal gain over January. Following an exceptional drop in January, business of department stores, particularly in Philadelphia, showed improvement, sales increasing more than usual. Some betterment also was reported by retailers of women's apparel in Philadelphia, while sales of shoes decreased contrary to the seasonal tendency and business in men's apparel fell off by a larger than the usual amount. Credit stores,

which sell chiefly house furnishings, clothing, jewelry and musical instruments on longer credit terms than those common under ordinary charge accounts, reported larger daily sales than in January, but this increase failed to equal seasonal expectations by 15 per cent. In the first two weeks of March retail business showed substantial losses as compared with a year ago, owing largely to the closing of banks, but since then there has been some improvement.

Compared with a year ago, total retail sales were 28 per cent smaller, department stores showing a decrease of 24 per cent, while losses in the remaining four lines varied from 15 per cent in women's apparel to 47 per cent in credit stores. Our adjusted index of total retail trade sales in February reached the lowest level in the past ten years. The influence of lower prices and general industrial conditions is reflected in these adverse comparisons with other years. The relative importance in sales of the lines which are used in this index follows:

Department stores	52.0%
Men's apparel stores.....	9.9
Women's apparel stores.....	10.9
Shoe stores	7.1
Credit stores	20.1
Total	100.0%

Inventories at retail stores showed smaller than usual increases except for stocks at shoe and credit stores. The rate of stock turnover in the first two months this year was 9 per cent lower than last. Settlements of accounts during February were at a substantially slower rate than in January, when payments registered a considerable improvement.

Total sales at wholesale declined in-

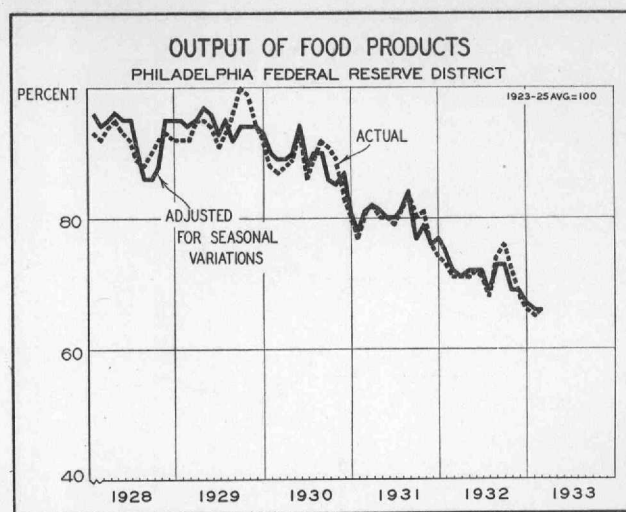
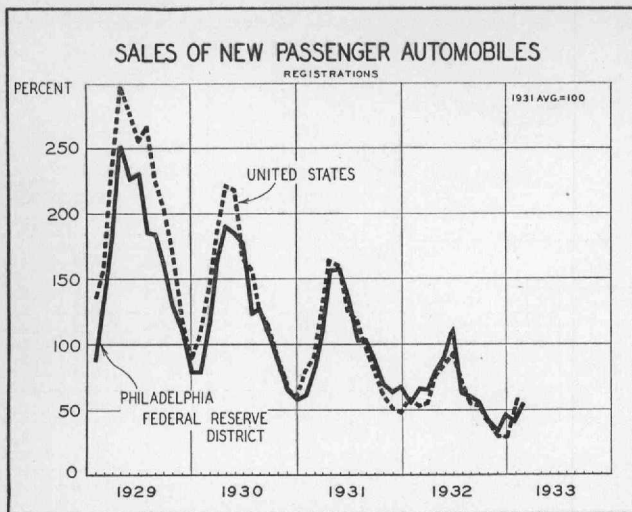
stead of increasing from January to February. This decrease was due principally to smaller sales of groceries which make up about one-third of the total sales by eight lines. There were, however, exceptional gains in the sales of shoes, hardware, jewelry, and paper. Compared with a year ago, the dollar sales of the eight lines combined was 14 per cent smaller, declines varying from 4 per cent in groceries to 51 per cent in jewelry. The relative importance of each of the eight wholesale lines which compose our index number is:

Boots and shoes.....	3.1%
Drugs	7.6
Dry goods	17.9
Electrical supplies	15.9
Groceries	35.0
Hardware	6.9
Jewelry	4.7
Paper	8.9
Total	100.0%

Stocks of merchandise at wholesale establishments were reduced rather than increased which is usual between January and February. The rate of stock turnover was almost 2 per cent higher this year than last. Collections, however, were slower than in January or a year ago.

Shipments of commodities by railroad freight in this section virtually maintained the seasonal percentage gain, although the volume was about 18 per cent smaller than last year. Deliveries of merchandise by motor freight in Pennsylvania during February showed seasonal gains as indicated by the increase of 2 per cent in employment of representative motor freight companies from January to February.

Sales of new passenger automobiles in February increased 31 per cent as compared with a typical seasonal in-



Sources: R. L. Polk Company, Pennsylvania Motor List Company

crease of about 37 per cent; but they were 18 per cent smaller than a year ago. Premiums paid on new life insurance, when adjusted for seasonal changes, declined 14 per cent more than they usually do in February and were 12 per cent below February 1932.

Banking conditions. In the last issue of this review attention was called to the unusual demand for currency and coin and to the fact that bankers' balances on deposit in this district had declined materially. Further withdrawals of such balances took place in the week ended March 1; the call for currency became increasingly heavy in the period up to March 4 and gold was taken by the public in large quantities. The outflow of currency and coin from the reserve bank in the ten days from February 22 to March 3 exceeded receipts by 54 millions; this demand and unfavorable balances in the settlements with other districts were met for the most part by an increase of 87 millions in borrowings from this bank and by a decline of 9 millions in the reserve balances of member banks.

The declaration of a bank holiday in Pennsylvania and New Jersey on March 4, followed by a holiday decreed by Presidential proclamation, put an effectual stop to the withdrawals that were taking place from the banks. In the latter half of the week ended March 12 payments of currency and coin were made by this bank to enable the banks to provide money for payrolls and necessary expenditures.

The reopening of most of the banks for regular business during the week beginning March 13, subject to the restrictions contained in the Executive

Order of March 10, was attended by a large return flow of money. From March 13 to March 22 the excess of currency and coin receipts of all kinds over amounts paid out reached nearly 48 millions. Member banks increased their reserve deposits in this period and were able to reduce their borrowings despite the withdrawal of some funds from the local market as a result of Treasury operations. From March 6 to March 22 this bank received nearly 22 millions of gold and gold certificates.

Bills discounted by this bank totaled 123 millions on March 22; this was 68 millions higher than a month earlier, but compared favorably with 156 millions on March 15. The reserve ratio declined from 55.1 to 44.6 per cent in the month, but this was noticeably higher than the figure of 39.3 per cent reported on March 15.

Demand and time deposits of all member banks in the district averaged 1,963 millions in February, which compared with 1,987 millions in January and 2,002 millions a year ago.

	Deposits		
	Demand	Time	Totals
All member banks (Daily net averages; 000,000's omitted)			
1932—November	\$973	\$1,004	\$1,977
December	985	995	1,980
1933—January	968	1,019	1,987
February	955	1,008	1,963
1932—February	989	1,013	2,002

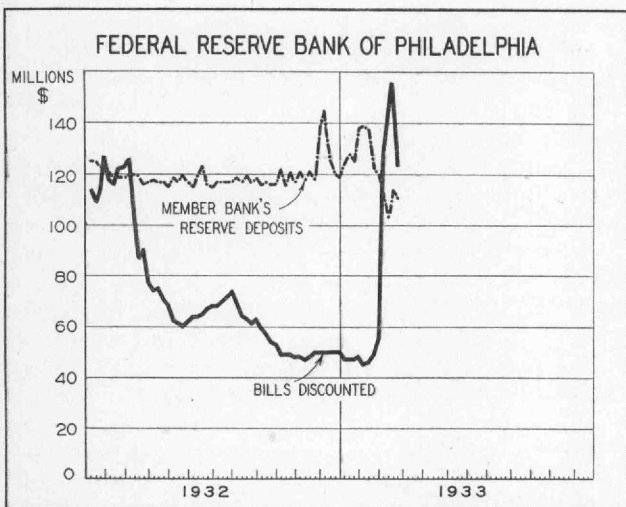
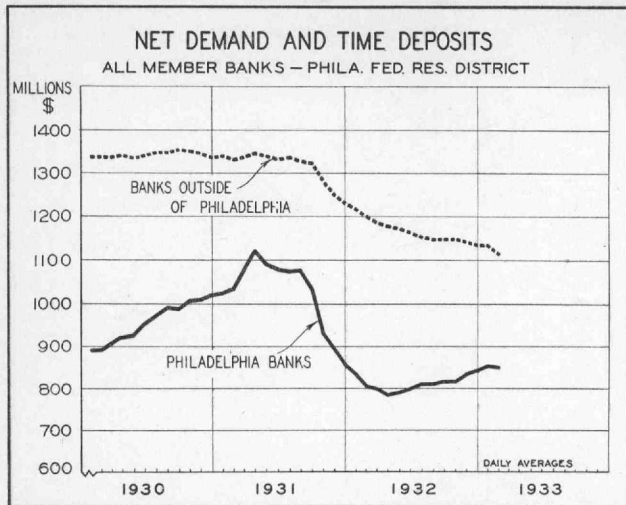
Rates charged in Philadelphia in the middle of March on the bulk of commercial loans to customers in good standing averaged a little over 5 per

cent; this was an increase of approximately one-half of one per cent over a month earlier, but a smaller increase over a year ago.

Outstanding acceptances of banks in this district declined from \$11,100,000 to \$10,400,000 during February, a decrease of 6 per cent which compared with less than one per cent decline in the figures for the country as a whole. In comparison with a year ago the decrease in this district was 35 per cent and in the national total, 23 per cent.

Two issues of certificates of indebtedness were made by the United States under date of March 15. Subscriptions received from the district totaled 77 millions. About 35½ millions was allotted here, of which 14½ millions was in exchange for maturing securities, while 21 millions was paid for in cash or by deposit credit.

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (Dollar figures in millions)	Mar. 22, 1933	Changes in—	
		Four weeks	One year
Bills discounted ..	\$123.3	+\$67.7	+\$ 33.5
Bills bought	10.7	- 2.2	+ 5.0
United States securities	128.1	- 9.0	+ 62.5
Other securities ..	0.5	0.0	- 0.8
Total bills and securities ..	\$262.6	+\$56.5	+\$100.2
Fed. res. note circulation ..	286.0	+ 33.4	+ 27.4
Member bank reserve deposits ..	110.8	- 9.6	- 5.5
Government deposits ..	3.2	+ 1.6	- 0.5
Foreign bank deposits ..	1.5	- 4.7	+ 0.1
Special deposits— member and non-member banks	4.9	+ 4.9	+ 4.9
Cash reserves	181.4	- 28.7	- 69.9
Reserve ratio	44.6%	- 10.5%	- 21.5%



Employment and wages in Pennsylvania	Employment February 1933		Payrolls February 1933			
	Feb.* index	Per cent change since		Feb.* index	Per cent change since	
		Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933		Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933
All manufacturing industries (51)	58.6	-15.3	+ 1.6	32.8	-32.6	+ 3.1
Metal products	48.2	-19.7	+ 2.1	22.8	-37.5	+ 5.1
Blast furnaces.....	40.0	- 6.8	+ 5.8	16.1	-28.8	+ 4.5
Steel wks. and rolling mills.....	44.0	-18.7	+ 4.3	20.3	-35.8	+12.2
Iron and steel forgings.....	46.5	-15.8	+ 2.5	28.0	-23.1	+ 1.8
Structural iron work.....	59.6	-27.2	+ 8.2	21.7	-56.4	+ 8.5
Steam and hot wtr. htg. app.....	75.7	- 2.8	+ 9.9	41.3	-21.3	+11.0
Stoves and furnaces.....	66.8	+16.0	+35.8	34.5	+ 7.5	+48.7
Foundries.....	45.1	-24.2	+ 3.4	16.9	-47.8	+ 4.3
Machinery and parts.....	51.3	-25.1	- 0.6	25.7	-45.4	- 3.0
Electrical apparatus.....	62.0	-25.4	- 7.0	31.5	-40.7	- 8.4
Engines and pumps.....	29.0	-19.4	- 1.0	13.1	-33.8	+ 0.8
Hardware and tools.....	59.9	- 7.1	+11.1	31.6	-31.0	+18.4
Brass and bronze products.....	51.9	-10.1	- 0.8	28.2	-20.8	+ 1.1
Transportation equipment	33.5p	-39.4	- 6.9	17.2p	-56.1	- 7.0
Automobiles.....	26.8	-54.3	- 3.3	7.5	-78.9	- 6.2
Auto. bodies and parts.....	43.7	-35.8	- 6.0	28.7	-53.3	- 8.6
Locomotives and cars.....	16.9	-19.9	-10.1	7.7	-43.4	-14.4
Railroad repair shops.....	52.9	-19.1	-10.9	28.2	-37.5	- 6.9
Shipbuilding.....	30.4	-18.7	+ 7.4	34.7	-34.7	+17.6
Textile products	82.0	- 6.5	+ 1.2	53.3	-25.6	+ 2.3
Cotton goods.....	57.3	- 6.5	+ 6.5	39.8	-27.2	+ 3.9
Woolens and worsteds.....	54.4	- 9.3	+ 5.6	36.4	-26.3	+12.3
Silk goods.....	92.5	- 2.2	- 2.0	65.2	-22.1	- 0.3
Textile dyeing and finishing.....	68.4	-19.8	+10.0	55.6	-26.5	+ 6.5
Carpets and rugs.....	45.6	-12.5	- 2.1	24.2	-33.9	- 0.4
Hats.....	54.3	- 8.3	- 1.6	39.7	- 4.6	- 9.6
Hosiery.....	102.8	-11.0	+ 2.7	69.0	-31.4	+ 3.3
Knit goods, Other.....	72.4	- 4.2	+ 2.3	43.5	-12.5	+ 4.6
Men's clothing.....	74.7	+ 0.7	+ 6.1	41.2	-17.8	+23.7
Women's clothing.....	126.9	+11.2	+ 3.1	79.1	-17.0	- 1.4
Shirts and furnishings.....	125.9	+ 7.7	+ 3.6	73.7	-16.4	+14.6
Foods and tobacco	91.3	- 6.7	+ 2.8	67.6	-18.9	+ 4.6
Bread and bakery products.....	94.4	- 4.6	- 0.1	74.5	-13.5	0.0
Confectionery.....	84.1	-10.0	- 5.3	67.1	-25.2	+ 3.5
Ice cream.....	70.7	-14.6	+ 1.7	53.1	-33.4	- 0.2
Meat packing.....	94.3	+ 0.3	- 0.4	65.3	-18.5	- 3.5
Cigars and tobacco.....	91.0	- 6.8	+ 9.4	61.2	-15.0	+16.1
Stone, clay and glass products	41.7	-21.5	+ 4.3	17.6	-41.1	+11.4
Brick, tile and pottery.....	44.9	-15.4	- 0.2	15.5	-38.0	- 3.1
Cement.....	29.1	-37.7	+ 5.1	11.7	-56.2	+15.8
Glass.....	66.2	- 3.8	+ 7.5	40.1	-19.0	+19.0
Lumber products	35.0	-28.1	+ 4.8	18.5	-47.7	+12.1
Lumber and planing mills.....	16.5	-49.4	+25.0	8.1	-68.2	+ 8.0
Furniture.....	38.2	-27.0	- 1.5	20.1	-45.5	+ 7.5
Wooden boxes.....	54.0	- 6.1	+ 3.8	31.4	-26.8	+23.6
Chemical products	78.5	- 4.7	+ 0.3	61.9	-14.1	+ 2.3
Chemicals and drugs.....	56.7	- 5.3	- 0.4	43.1	-11.5	- 1.4
Coke.....	55.5	-11.1	+ 2.2	20.7	-33.4	+10.7
Explosives.....	65.1	- 8.3	+ 0.8	52.6	- 9.5	+20.6
Paints and varnishes.....	86.6	- 1.8	+ 3.3	60.2	-21.3	+19.7
Petroleum refining.....	117.3	- 3.5	- 0.6	105.9	-12.0	- 0.1
Leather and rubber products	91.4	- 0.9	+ 4.8	60.8	-18.6	+ 8.8
Leather tanning.....	90.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	57.3	-14.2	- 1.5
Shoes.....	109.2	+ 1.4	+12.7	79.8	-18.8	+35.5
Leather products, Other.....	66.3	-11.6	+ 8.5	56.5	-23.3	+15.3
Rubber tires and goods.....	77.2	- 2.6	+ 0.9	52.1	-31.4	+ 5.7
Paper and printing	79.3	- 9.9	- 1.2	62.3	-27.6	- 2.0
Paper and wood pulp.....	68.9	- 8.6	- 5.5	43.6	-33.9	- 9.4
Paper boxes and bags.....	60.7	-16.2	+ 4.7	51.1	-22.3	+20.0
Printing and publishing.....	85.5	-10.2	+ 0.1	71.0	-25.6	- 0.6
Anthracite mining	57.2	-17.5	+11.9	47.7	- 0.6	+31.4
Bituminous coal mining			- 1.4			- 3.8
Banking, insurance and real estate			- 0.1			- 0.8
Canning and preserving			- 0.6			+12.1
Construction and contracting			- 2.8			-10.8
Hotels			+ 0.8			+ 0.1
Laundries			- 1.5			- 4.1
Dyeing and cleaning			- 1.5			-11.6
Crude petroleum			- 3.3			- 1.8
Public utilities			- 0.5			+ 1.1
Quarrying and mining			+ 9.9			+14.5
Retail trade	79.1	- 4.4	+ 0.1			
Wholesale trade	79.9	- 5.9	+ 0.3			

City areas*	Percentage change—Feb. 1933 from Feb. 1932				
	Employment	Wage payments	Building permits (value)	Debits	Retail trade sales
Allentown.....	-14.0	-33.3	+ 854.8	-30.8	-28.3
Altoona.....	+ 3.8	-26.8	+ 62.9	-33.4	-15.2
Harrisburg.....	-11.4	-35.4	+ 7.6	- 8.8	-19.8
Johnstown.....	-27.3	-39.0	+ 73.1	-33.1	-33.6
Lancaster.....	-26.4	-46.9	+ 68.9	-33.5	-30.2
Philadelphia.....	-13.4	-25.5	+ 63.1	- 6.4	-24.3
Reading.....	-15.0	-42.2	+ 51.7	-22.6	-20.4
Scranton.....	- 1.1	-14.2	+ 9.1	-17.8	-12.0
Trenton.....	-17.1	-32.2	+ 74.3	- 8.4	-25.9
Wilkes-Barre.....	+ 3.9	-15.0	+ 37.8	-22.7	-22.7
Williamsport.....	-36.8	-65.2	+ 48.7	-41.7	-20.7
Wilmington.....	- 9.1	-19.5	+ 63.3	-13.8	-20.7
York.....	+ 1.0	-18.8	+ 885.7	-21.7	.....

City areas*	February 1933 from January 1933				
	Employment	Wage payments	Building permits (value)	Debits	Retail trade sales
Allentown.....	+ 1.2	+ 2.6	+2527.7	-15.2	- 1.6
Altoona.....	+ 4.2	+11.2	+ 146.7	-10.1	+11.7
Harrisburg.....	+ 2.9	+15.6	+ 33.4	-23.3	- 6.1
Johnstown.....	- 0.0	- 6.2	+ 75.1	-23.1	+23.8
Lancaster.....	+ 4.9	+ 4.2	+ 17.4	- 6.4	+11.4
Philadelphia.....	- 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 43.7	- 4.5	- 0.2
Reading.....	+ 5.4	+ 3.3	+ 31.0	-10.9	- 2.3
Scranton.....	+ 4.8	+10.2	+ 9.2	+ 3.4	+ 0.7
Trenton.....	- 1.5	+ 4.8	+ 18.8	+10.3	+ 5.8
Wilkes-Barre.....	- 0.8	+10.1	+ 32.1	-13.4	-13.9
Williamsport.....	- 1.5	+ 0.9	+176.4	- 8.4	.....
Wilmington.....	+ 0.5	+ 2.0	+ 9.2	-15.8	+ 6.5
York.....	+ 6.5	+ 3.2	+6731.0	-12.8	.....

* Area not restricted to the corporate limits of cities given here.

* 1923-1925 average = 100. p—Preliminary figures.

Index numbers of individual lines of trade and manufacture

Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

"Adjusted" index numbers make allowance for the usual seasonal changes which result from an uneven distribution of business between the months of the year. They are the most significant indexes because they show improvement or decline beyond the level usually to be expected.

"Unadjusted" indexes reflect merely the actual changes which may or may not be up to the usual seasonal expectations.

Index numbers expressed in percentages of the 1923-1925 average which is taken as 100

	Adjusted for seasonal variation						Not adjusted			
	Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933	Feb. 1933	Percentage comparison			Feb. 1932	Jan. 1933	Feb. 1933	
				Month ago	Year ago	2 months 1933 with 2 months 1932				
Retail trade										
Sales										
All stores.....	67.6	50.7	48.9	- 3.6	-27.7	-26.0	55.8	41.6	40.1	
Department.....	67.0	50.2	50.7	+ 1.0	-24.3	-25.2	55.1	41.2	41.8	
Men's apparel.....	55.6r	45.3	43.9	- 3.1	-21.0	-23.0	46.1r	46.6	36.4	
Women's apparel.....	77.5	66.9	66.0	- 1.3	-14.8	-26.2	57.1	59.9	48.6	
Shoe.....	75.6	60.8	53.5	-12.0	-29.2	-30.6	61.2	48.0	43.3	
Credit.....	67.0r	42.1	35.6	-15.4	-46.9	-45.9	59.6r	27.8	31.7	
Stocks of goods										
All stores.....	67.4	56.7	54.2	- 4.4	-19.6	.....	64.7	50.4	52.0
Department.....	62.0	52.5	49.9	- 5.0	-19.5	.....	59.0	46.5	47.4
Men's apparel.....	60.1r	48.8	48.8	-20.3	-18.8	.....	58.2r	48.7	47.6
Women's apparel.....	84.4	85.3	80.0	- 6.2	- 5.2	.....	79.4	73.1	75.2
Shoe.....	69.5	54.4	56.5	+ 3.9	-18.7	.....	65.3	51.1	53.1
Credit.....	72.4r	53.9	55.9	+ 3.7	-22.8	.....	71.0r	51.2	54.8
Rate of stock turnover 2 months (actual, not indexes)							- 9.3*	0.54	0.49
Wholesale trade										
Sales										
Total of all lines.....	64.9	58.5	56.0p	- 4.3	-13.7	-14.8	59.0	51.9	51.3p	
Boots and shoes.....	56.2	30.7	39.6	+29.0	-29.5	-28.7	39.9	18.7	28.1	
Drugs.....	93.5	90.8	77.5	-14.6	-17.1	-11.4	95.4	93.5	79.0	
Dry goods.....	43.2	32.3	32.6	+ 0.9	-24.5	-24.1	36.3	26.2	27.4	
Electrical supplies.....	48.2	47.0	40.6	-13.6	-15.8	-22.4	42.9	31.5	36.1	
Groceries.....	86.9	86.8	83.2	- 4.1	- 4.3	- 5.8	80.8	80.7	77.4	
Hardware.....	46.9	26.8	30.0	+11.9	-36.0	-33.7	38.0	21.2	24.3	
Jewelry.....	47.0	21.6	23.0p	+ 6.5	-51.1	-51.9	33.4	12.5	16.3p	
Paper.....	52.2	43.9	46.9	+ 6.8	-10.2	-26.4	51.2	45.7	46.0	
Stocks of goods										
Total of all lines.....	70.0	59.4	57.8	- 2.7	-17.4	.....	69.9	58.4	57.6
Drugs.....	112.0	108.9	104.9	- 3.7	- 6.3	.....	114.2	106.7	107.0
Dry goods.....	44.7	36.0	36.0	0.0	-19.5	.....	43.4	33.8	34.9
Electrical supplies.....	76.5	59.1r	56.5	- 4.4	-26.1	.....	71.9	56.1r	53.1
Groceries.....	78.7	66.4	65.0	- 2.1	-17.4	.....	81.8	69.1	67.6
Hardware.....	70.9	65.3	63.6	- 2.6	-10.3	.....	73.0	66.0	65.5
Jewelry.....	67.0	54.5	53.4	- 2.0	-20.3	.....	59.0	47.4	47.0
Paper.....	71.6	64.8	61.2	- 5.6	-14.5	.....	70.9	63.5	60.6
Rate of stock turnover 2 months (actual, not indexes)							+ 1.5*	0.65	0.66
Output of manufactures										
Pig iron.....	21.8	13.2	14.4	+ 9.1	-33.9	-33.8	22.5	12.8	14.8	
Steel.....	35.1	23.2r	23.7	+ 2.2	-32.5	-37.6	36.9	22.7r	24.9	
Iron castings.....	28.4	20.7	19.4	- 6.3	-31.7	-36.5	29.0	18.8	19.8	
Steel castings.....	23.8	14.8	10.3	-30.4	-56.7	-55.9	26.6	15.7	11.5	
Electrical apparatus.....	58.0	43.5r	40.5	- 6.9	-30.2	-38.7	55.7	40.9r	38.9	
Motor vehicles.....	43.7	11.3	9.2	-18.6	-78.9	-76.6	44.1	9.9	9.3	
Automobile parts and bodies.....	59.7	33.3	28.0	-15.9	-53.1	-53.7	64.5	33.0	30.2	
Locomotives and cars.....	15.5	13.1r	10.6	-19.1	-31.6	-20.5	15.8	12.7r	10.8	
Shipbuilding.....	160.4	97.6	98.8	+ 1.2	-38.4	-36.0	157.2	99.6	96.8	
Silk manufactures.....	91.0	111.6	96.1	-13.9	+ 5.6	+ 3.8	96.5	113.8	101.9	
Woolen and worsteds.....	48.0	41.8	46.2p	+10.5	- 3.7	- 9.9	49.5	42.2	47.6p	
Cotton products.....	42.9	31.4	31.2	- 0.6	-27.3	-28.5	46.0	32.0	33.5	
Carpets and rugs.....	43.8	29.7	29.6p	- 0.3	-32.4	-33.1	44.7	30.3	30.2p	
Hosiery.....	104.2	91.0	93.9p	+ 3.2	- 9.9	- 8.7	108.4	94.6	97.7p	
Underwear.....	103.2	122.8	118.5	- 3.5	+14.8	+18.8	112.5	120.3	129.2	
Cement.....	59.9	17.7	21.1	+19.2	-64.8	-68.8	41.9	12.4	14.8	
Brick.....	27.1	23.2r	21.3	- 8.2	-21.4	-27.3	26.0	21.6r	20.4	
Lumber and products.....	21.3	10.9r	11.3	+ 3.7	-46.9	-49.7	20.4	10.0r	10.8	
Bread and bakery products.....	.....	.....	.....	+ 2.1*	- 4.6*	- 7.0*	86.1	80.4r	82.1
Slaughtering, meat packing.....	91.4	91.6	96.9	+ 5.8	+ 6.0	+ 1.9	94.2	101.3	98.7	
Sugar refining.....	62.7	94.1	55.1	-41.4	-12.1	-14.4	81.5	64.9	71.6	
Canning and preserving.....	25.9	23.9	24.2p	+ 1.3	- 6.6	- 8.0	23.9	23.1	22.7p	
Cigars.....	82.6	78.2	80.4	+ 2.8	- 2.7	- 5.4	69.4	64.1	67.5	
Paper and wood pulp.....	66.2	51.6r	47.6	- 7.8	-28.1	-22.0	66.2	51.1r	47.6	
Printing and publishing.....	100.2	84.1r	84.4	+ 0.4	-15.8	-15.1	100.2	84.1r	84.4	
Shoes.....	121.8	97.1	119.5	+23.1	- 1.9	- 3.2	127.9	99.0	125.5	
Leather, goat and kid.....	96.1	93.8	90.6p	- 3.4	- 5.7	- 0.5	103.8	99.4	97.9p	
Explosives.....	49.1	48.1	58.0p	+20.6	+18.1	+ 2.8	49.1	48.1	58.0p	
Paints and varnishes.....	73.8	52.8	58.1	+10.0	-21.3	-26.2	72.3	47.5	56.9	
Petroleum products.....	134.2	133.3	133.8p	+ 0.4	- 0.3	- 2.4	132.9	132.7	132.5p	
Coke, by-product.....	60.6	53.2	51.5	- 3.2	-15.0	-15.0	63.6	53.2	54.1	

* Computed from data unadjusted for seasonal variation. p-Preliminary. r-Revised. 9 manufacturing indexes were revised from May 1932—See table on page 4, column 1.

