

Economic Indicators

MAY 1948

Prepared for the Joint Committee on the Economic Report by the Council of Economic Advisers and printed for the use of the Joint Committee on the Economic Report

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1948

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMIC REPORT

(Created pursuant to Sec. 5 (a) of Public Law 304, 79th Cong.)

ROBERT A. TAFT, Ohio, *Chairman*

JESSE P. WOLCOTT, Michigan, *Vice Chairman*

JOSEPH H. BALL, Minnesota
RALPH E. FLANDERS, Vermont
ARTHUR V. WATKINS, Utah
JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY, Wyoming
FRANCIS J. MYERS, Pennsylvania
JOHN SPARKMAN, Alabama

GEORGE H. BENDER, Ohio
CHRISTIAN A. HERTER, Massachusetts
ROBERT F. RICH, Pennsylvania
EDWARD J. HART, New Jersey
WRIGHT PATMAN, Texas
WALTER B. HUBER, Ohio

CHARLES O. HARDY, *Staff Director*

FRED E. BERQUIST, *Assistant Staff Director*

JOHN W. LEHMAN, *Clerk*

To the Members of Congress:

From the time the Joint Committee on the Economic Report was established, its members realized that one of its basic needs was a concise and meaningful picture of current economic trends and developments.

This need could not be met merely by turning to the many statistical reports compiled by the various executive agencies. Most of these were too detailed or not sufficiently graphic. None was adequate in presenting the salient statistics for the various segments of the economy.

Fortunately, the Joint Committee finds that *Economic Indicators*, a set of basic charts and tables compiled monthly by the Council of Economic Advisers, admirably fills this need. While this material was prepared primarily for the use of the President, the Council and other officials in the executive offices, the Council has made it available to the Joint Committee.

Other Members of Congress have also expressed an interest in being able to obtain a quick picture of current economic facts without having to wade through voluminous and specialized Government documents. In addition, businessmen, farm leaders, labor organizations and representatives of the press and radio have indicated their desire for this information. Since nothing contained in these charts and tables is of a confidential nature they have urged that the material be made available to the general public.

Accordingly, the Joint Committee has decided to provide Congress and the public with a limited number of copies of *Economic Indicators* for May 1948. If the report receives a favorable reaction from the members of Congress it will be continued on a monthly basis.

Any comments or suggestions with respect to possible improvements in this presentation will be appreciated.



Vice-Chairman

Joint Committee on the Economic Report.

Letter of Transmittal

HON. ROBERT A. TAFT, *Chairman,*
Joint Committee on the Economic Report,
United States Congress, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR: The Council of Economic Advisers is happy to cooperate with the Joint Committee on the Economic Report in your plans to make Economic Indicators available to the Congress as a whole and to the general public.

In carrying out its mandate under the Employment Act of 1946, the Council has found it desirable to bring together in concise and graphic form the most important facts showing current trends in the Nation's economy. Thus the Executive Office is in a better position to point up the key problems of national economic policy and to promote the improvement and coordination of the Federal Government's widespread statistical services.

We have realized, of course, that this material has a potential usefulness not only to the President, the Council and the executive departments, but also to the Congress. Furthermore, its usefulness to the general public has been impressed upon us, particularly by the representatives of business, labor, agriculture, and consumer organizations with whom we regularly consult.

We believe the Joint Committee will perform a service of real value by giving wide circulation to this material.

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN G. NOURSE, *Chairman.*

LEON H. KEYSERLING, *Vice Chairman.*

JOHN D. CLARK.

Contents

Section A: THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

The Nation's Economic Budget..... 1

Section B: PRICES

Consumers' Prices..... 2

Wholesale Prices..... 3

Prices Received and Paid by Farmers..... 4

Stock Prices..... 5

Section C: EMPLOYMENT

Labor Force..... 6

Nonagricultural Employment..... 7

Average Weekly Hours..... 8

Work Stoppages..... 9

Section D: PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Industrial Production..... 10

Production of Selected Durable Manufactures 11

Production of Selected Nondurable Manufactures . 12

New Construction..... 13

New Housing Starts..... 14

Expenditures for New Plant and Equipment 15

New Corporate Security Issues..... 16

Section D: PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY—Continued

Inventories and Sales..... 17

Exports and Imports..... 18

Section E: PURCHASING POWER

National Income..... 19

Corporate Profits..... 20

Personal Income..... 21

Consumer Income, Spending, and Saving..... 22

Per Capita Income..... 23

Average Hourly Earnings..... 24

Average Weekly Earnings..... 25

Farm Income..... 26

Average Family Income..... 27

Personal Consumption Expenditures..... 28

Consumer Credit..... 29

Section F: MONEY, BANKING, AND FEDERAL FINANCE

Money Supply..... 30

Bank Loans and Investments..... 31

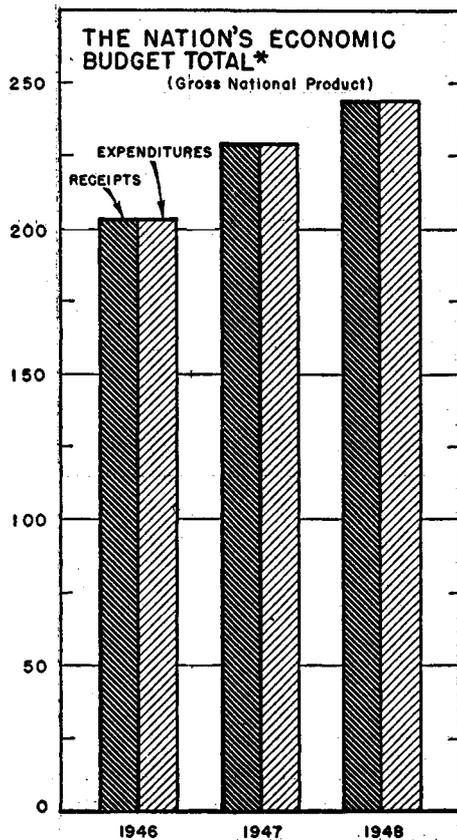
Federal Cash Receipts From and Payments to the Public..... 32

Section A: THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

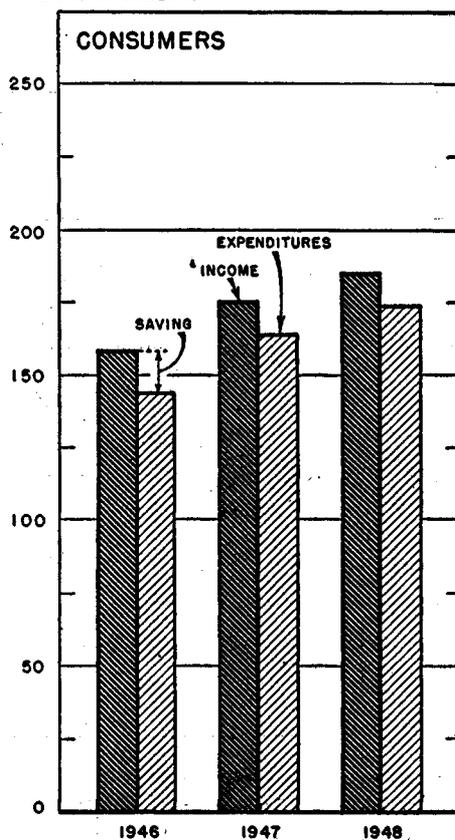
THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

Preliminary estimates of the Nation's Economic Budget for the first quarter of 1948 indicate that the total increased 6 percent above the level of 1947. Consumers' expenditures increased 6 percent, business outlays 19 percent, while net exports and government expenditures dropped.

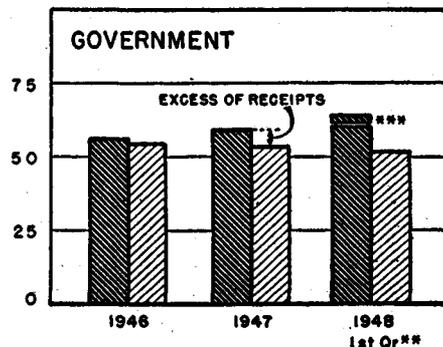
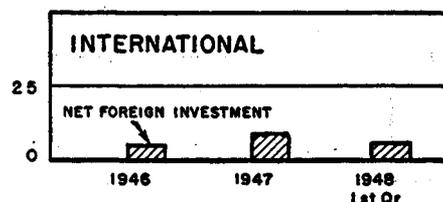
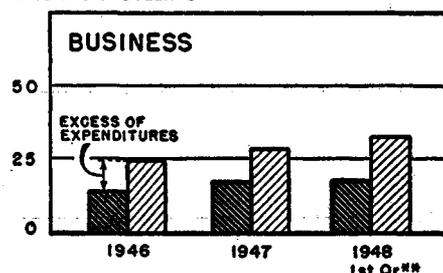
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



*GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT IS NOT EXACTLY THE SUM OF THE COMPONENTS BECAUSE OF CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS.

** SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ANNUAL RATES

*** RANGE OF ESTIMATES DUE TO UNCERTAINTY IN SEASONAL FACTOR FOR THE FIRST QUARTER

SOURCES: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND BUREAU OF THE BUDGET.

COURTESY OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Billions of dollars]

Account	Calendar year 1946			Calendar year 1947			Calendar year 1948, first quarter, annual rates, seasonally adjusted		
	Re-ceipts	Expend-itures	Excess of receipts (+) or expend-itures (-)	Re-ceipts	Expend-itures	Excess of receipts (+) or expend-itures (-)	Receipts	Expend-itures	Excess of receipts (+) or expend-itures (-)
Consumers:									
Disposable income.....	158.4			175.3			186.1		
Expenditures.....		143.7			164.4			173.2	
Saving (+).....			+14.8			+10.9			+12.9
Business:									
Undistributed profits and reserves.....	13.3			17.6			18.9		
Gross private domestic investment.....		24.6			27.8			36.0	
Excess of receipts (+) or investment (-).....			-11.3			-10.2			-17.1
International:									
Net foreign investment.....		4.8			8.7			4.2	
Excess of receipts (+) or investment (-).....			-4.8			-8.7			-4.2
Government (Federal, State, and local):									
Cash receipts from the public.....	56.5			59.3			62.3		
Cash payments to the public.....		55.2			53.4			51.4	
Excess of receipts (+) or payments (-).....			+1.3			+5.9			+10.9
Adjustments¹.....	-22.3	-24.5	+2.1	-18.2	-24.7	+6.5	-17.7	-20.4	+2.7
Statistical discrepancy.....	-2.1	0	-2.1	-4.4		-4.4	-5.3		-5.3
Total gross national product.....	203.7	203.7	0	229.6	229.6	0	244.3	244.3	0

¹ Adjustments must be made to insure that Nation's Economic Budget total is equal to current production of goods and services. The adjustments eliminate double counting, such as payments to social security beneficiaries and veterans' pensions, which are reflected in government account as well as in consumers' account. For detail, see Appendix A of the President's Economic Reports.

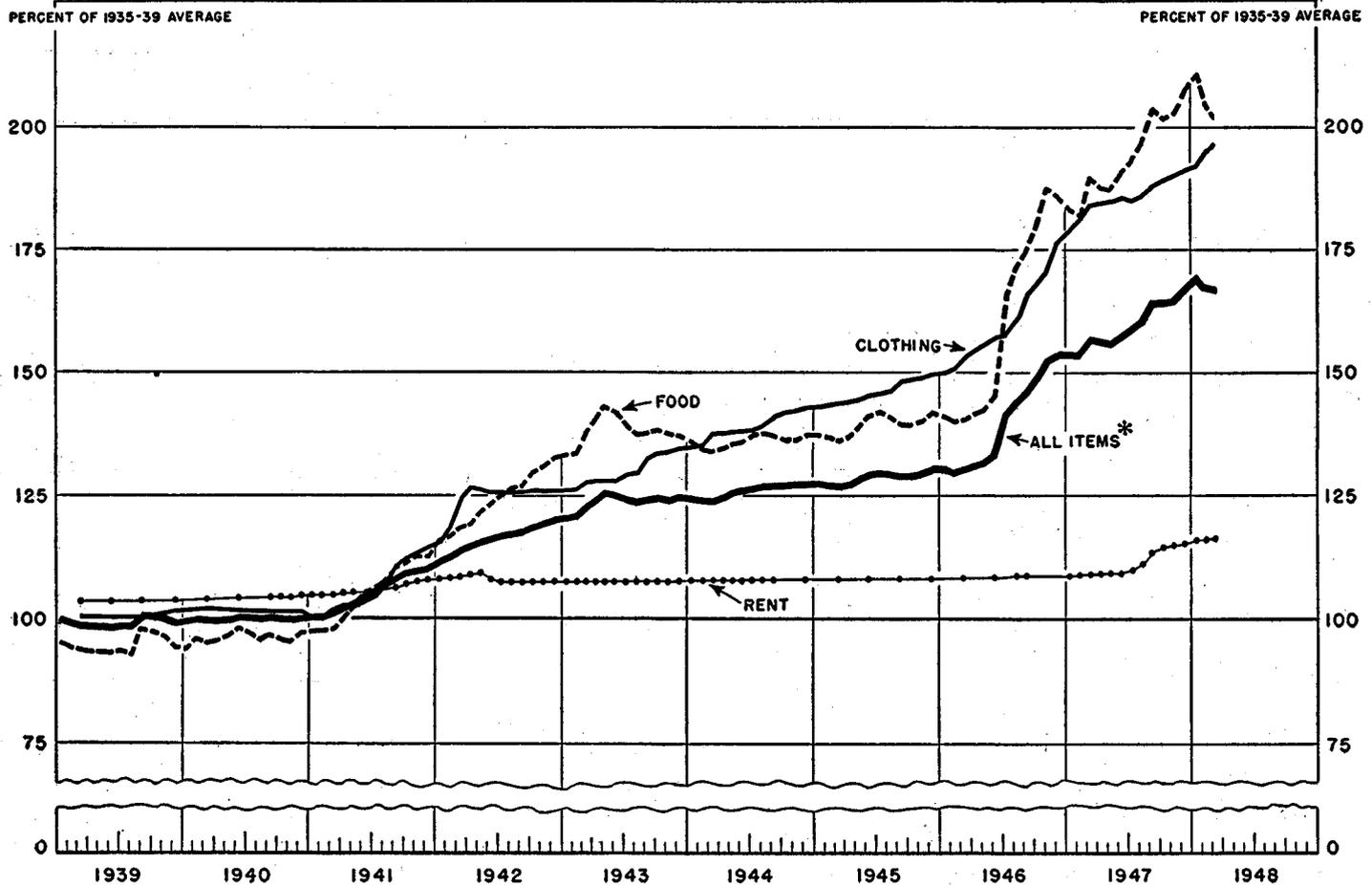
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Bureau of the Budget.

Section B: PRICES

CONSUMERS' PRICES

Lower food prices caused consumers' prices to drop slightly in March. Most other items continued to rise.



*ALSO INCLUDES HOUSEFURNISHINGS, FUEL, ELECTRICITY, ICE,
AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES, NOT SHOWN ON CHART.

SOURCE: Department of Labor.

Council of Economic Advisers

[1935-39=100]

Period	All items ¹	Food	Clothing	Rent
1939 monthly average.....	99.4	95.2	100.5	104.3
1940 monthly average.....	100.2	96.6	101.7	104.6
1941 monthly average.....	105.2	105.5	106.3	106.2
1942 monthly average.....	116.5	123.9	124.2	108.5
1943 monthly average.....	123.6	138.0	129.7	108.0
1944 monthly average.....	125.5	136.1	138.8	108.2
1945 monthly average.....	128.4	139.1	145.9	108.3
1946 monthly average.....	139.3	159.6	160.2	108.6
1947 monthly average.....	159.2	193.8	185.8	111.2
1947: May.....	156.0	187.6	185.0	109.2
June.....	157.1	190.5	185.7	109.2
July.....	158.4	193.1	184.7	110.0
August.....	160.3	196.5	185.9	111.2
September.....	163.8	203.5	187.6	113.6
October.....	163.8	201.6	189.0	114.9
November.....	164.9	202.7	190.2	115.2
December.....	167.0	206.9	191.2	115.4
1948: January.....	168.8	209.7	192.1	115.9
February.....	167.5	204.7	195.1	116.0
March.....	166.9	202.3	196.3	116.3

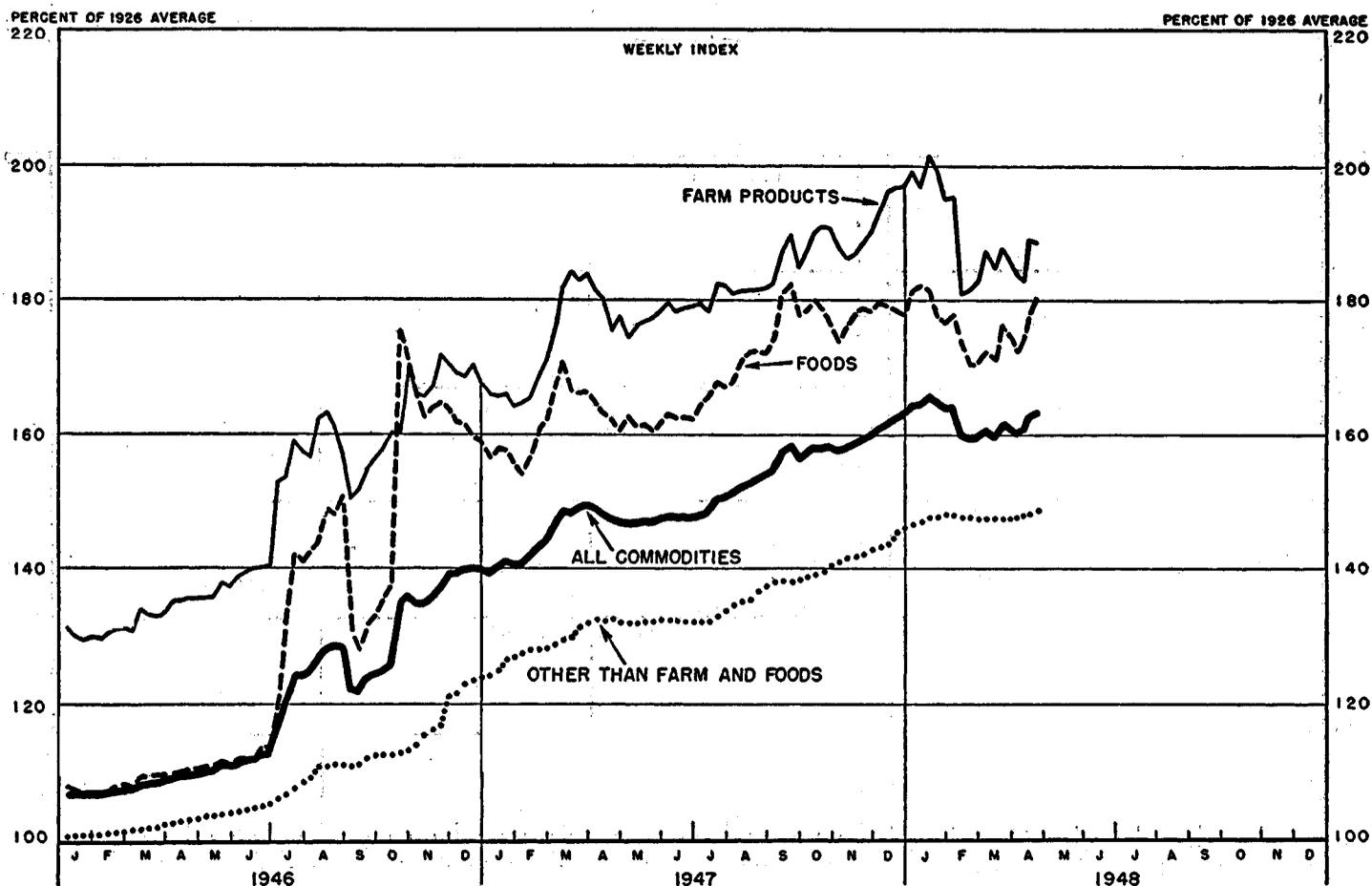
¹ Also includes housefurnishings, fuel, electricity, ice, and miscellaneous goods and services.

NOTE.—Prices are for moderate-income families in large cities.

Source: Department of Labor.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices displayed some upward tendency in April, with food prices almost back to the peak levels of early January. Farm prices have recovered about 2/5 of the January-February drop. Other than farm and food prices have continued an upward creep.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

WHOLESALE PRICES

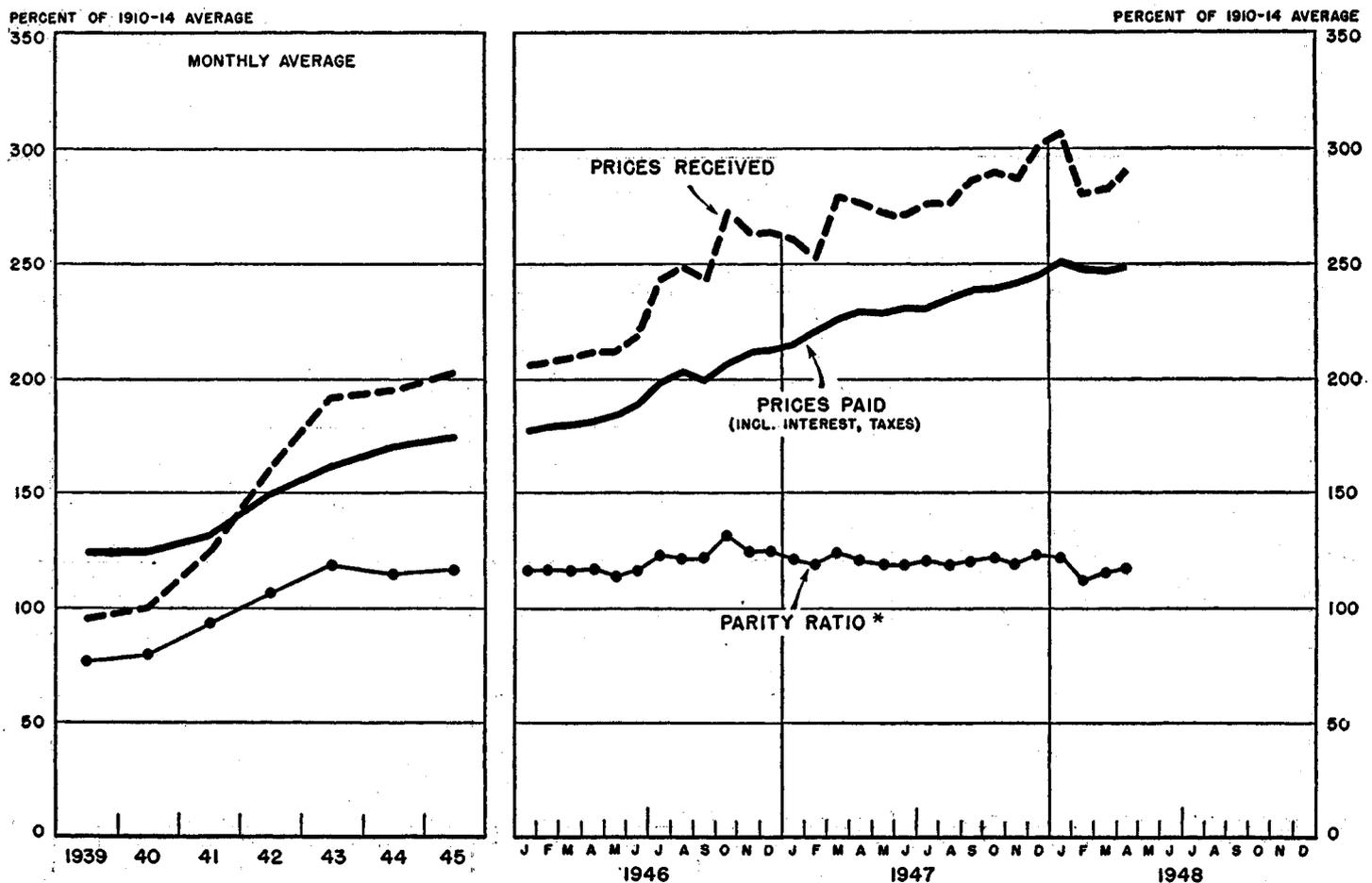
[1926=100]

Week ended—	All commodities	Farm products	Foods	Other than farm and foods
1946: Jan. 5.....	106.8	131.3	108.0	100.6
June 29.....	112.7	140.3	113.4	105.4
Sept. 28.....	124.4	156.6	133.0	112.4
Dec. 28.....	139.6	167.7	159.1	123.9
1947: Mar. 29.....	149.4	183.8	166.5	131.9
June 28.....	147.6	179.0	162.2	132.0
Sept. 27.....	156.2	184.7	177.6	138.2
Dec. 27.....	163.0	197.0	177.8	146.0
1948: Jan. 3.....	164.4	199.2	181.3	146.4
10.....	164.5	197.0	182.1	146.9
17.....	165.5	201.5	181.2	147.4
24.....	164.4	199.2	177.4	147.6
31.....	163.7	195.1	176.5	148.0
Feb. 7.....	163.8	195.5	177.9	147.8
14.....	159.7	180.9	173.3	147.5
21.....	159.2	181.7	170.3	147.5
28.....	159.2	182.8	170.5	147.3
Mar. 6.....	160.4	187.1	172.2	147.3
13.....	159.8	184.9	171.2	147.3
20.....	161.5	187.6	176.4	147.3
27.....	161.1	186.2	174.8	147.4
Apr. 3.....	160.1	183.9	172.4	147.7
10.....	160.6	183.1	174.5	147.9
17.....	162.9	189.2	178.8	148.3
24.....	163.6	188.9	180.4	149.0
May 1.....	162.6	186.9	177.5	148.7

Source: Department of Labor.

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Prices received by farmers in April continued to recover from the February drop. Prices paid by farmers have been relatively stable since the first of the year.



* RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PRICES PAID, INTEREST, AND TAXES.
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

[1910-14=100]

Period	Prices received ¹	Prices paid, including interest and taxes	Parity ratio ²
1939 monthly average.....	95	124	77
1940 monthly average.....	100	125	80
1941 monthly average.....	124	132	94
1942 monthly average.....	159	150	106
1943 monthly average.....	192	162	119
1944 monthly average.....	195	169	115
1945 monthly average.....	202	172	117
1946 monthly average.....	233	193	121
1947 monthly average.....	278	231	120
1947: January.....	260	215	121
February.....	262	221	119
March.....	280	226	124
April.....	276	229	121
May.....	272	228	119
June.....	271	230	118
July.....	276	230	120
August.....	276	234	118
September.....	286	238	120
October.....	289	239	121
November.....	287	241	119
December.....	301	245	123
1948: January.....	307	251	122
February.....	279	248	112
March.....	283	247	115
April.....	291	249	117

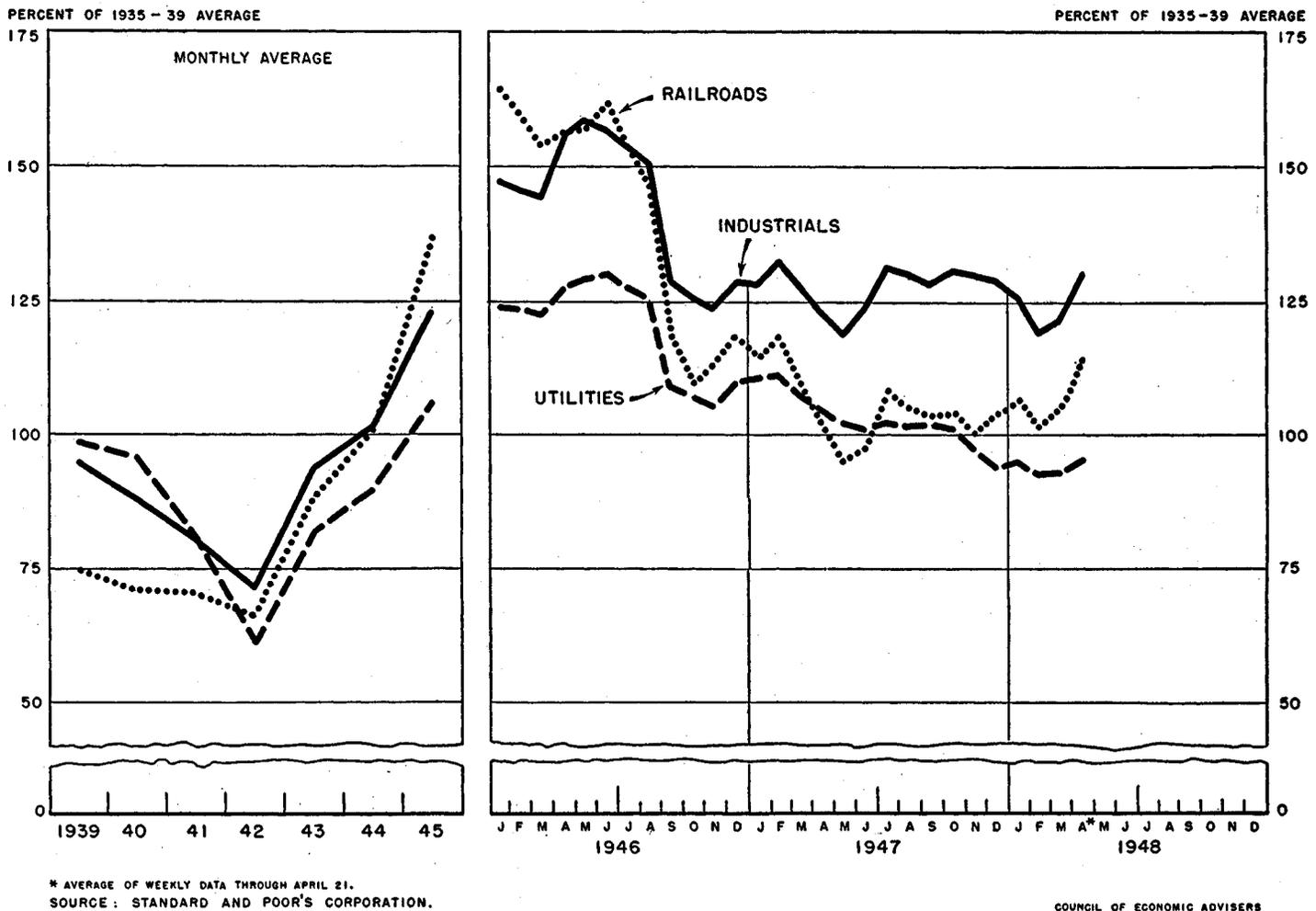
¹ August 1909-July 1914=100.

² Ratio of prices received to prices paid, interest, and taxes.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

STOCK PRICES

Industrial and railroad stock prices rose sharply in March and April, and utilities rose somewhat.



STOCK PRICES

402 COMMON STOCKS

[1935-39=100]

Period	Combined index (402 stocks)	Industrial (354 stocks)	Railroads (20 stocks)	Utilities (28 stocks)
1939 monthly average.....	94.2	94.8	74.7	98.6
1940 monthly average.....	88.1	87.9	71.1	95.8
1941 monthly average.....	80.0	80.4	70.6	81.0
1942 monthly average.....	69.4	71.3	66.1	61.3
1943 monthly average.....	91.9	94.1	88.7	82.1
1944 monthly average.....	99.8	101.7	101.0	89.9
1945 monthly average.....	121.5	123.3	136.9	06.1
1946 monthly average.....	139.9	143.4	143.0	20.2
1947 monthly average.....	123.0	128.0	105.3	02.9
1947: January.....	125.2	128.5	114.7	10.7
February.....	128.7	132.6	118.8	11.4
March.....	123.7	127.7	109.9	07.3
April.....	119.3	123.1	102.2	04.6
May.....	115.2	119.0	95.1	02.0
June.....	119.1	124.1	97.6	00.8
July.....	126.0	131.7	108.2	02.2
August.....	124.5	130.2	105.2	01.4
September.....	123.1	128.4	103.6	02.0
October.....	125.1	131.1	104.2	01.0
November.....	123.6	130.3	100.1	97.2
December.....	122.4	129.2	103.9	94.0
1948: January.....	120.1	126.0	106.5	95.1
February.....	114.2	119.2	101.9	92.6
March.....	116.4	121.8	105.2	93.0
April ¹	124.1	130.3	114.0	95.9

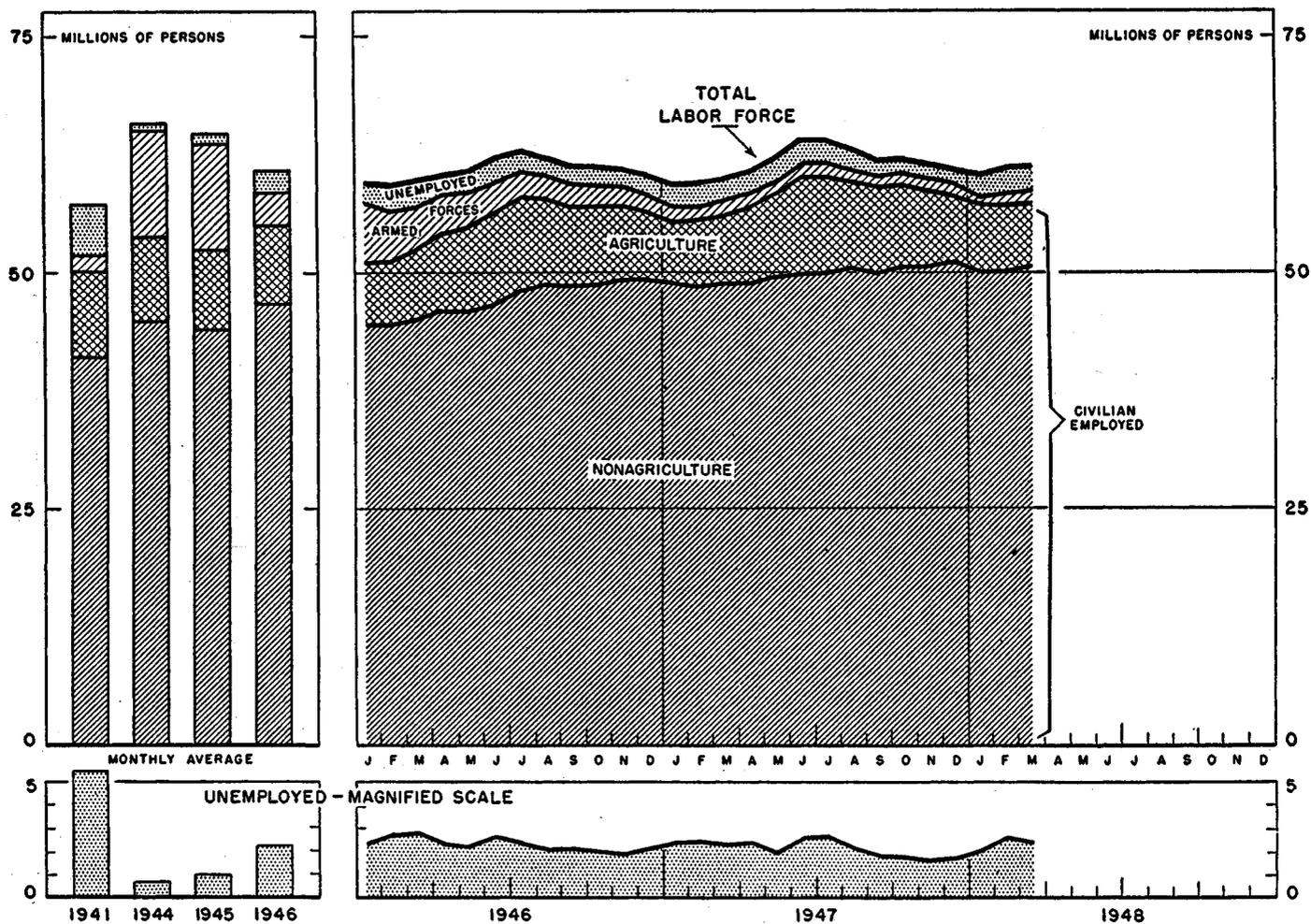
¹ Average of weekly data through Apr. 21.

Source: Standard & Poor's Corp.

Section C: EMPLOYMENT

LABOR FORCE

Unemployment dropped 200,000 in March, while the labor force remained stable.



SOURCE: Department of Commerce.

Council of Economic Advisers

LABOR FORCE

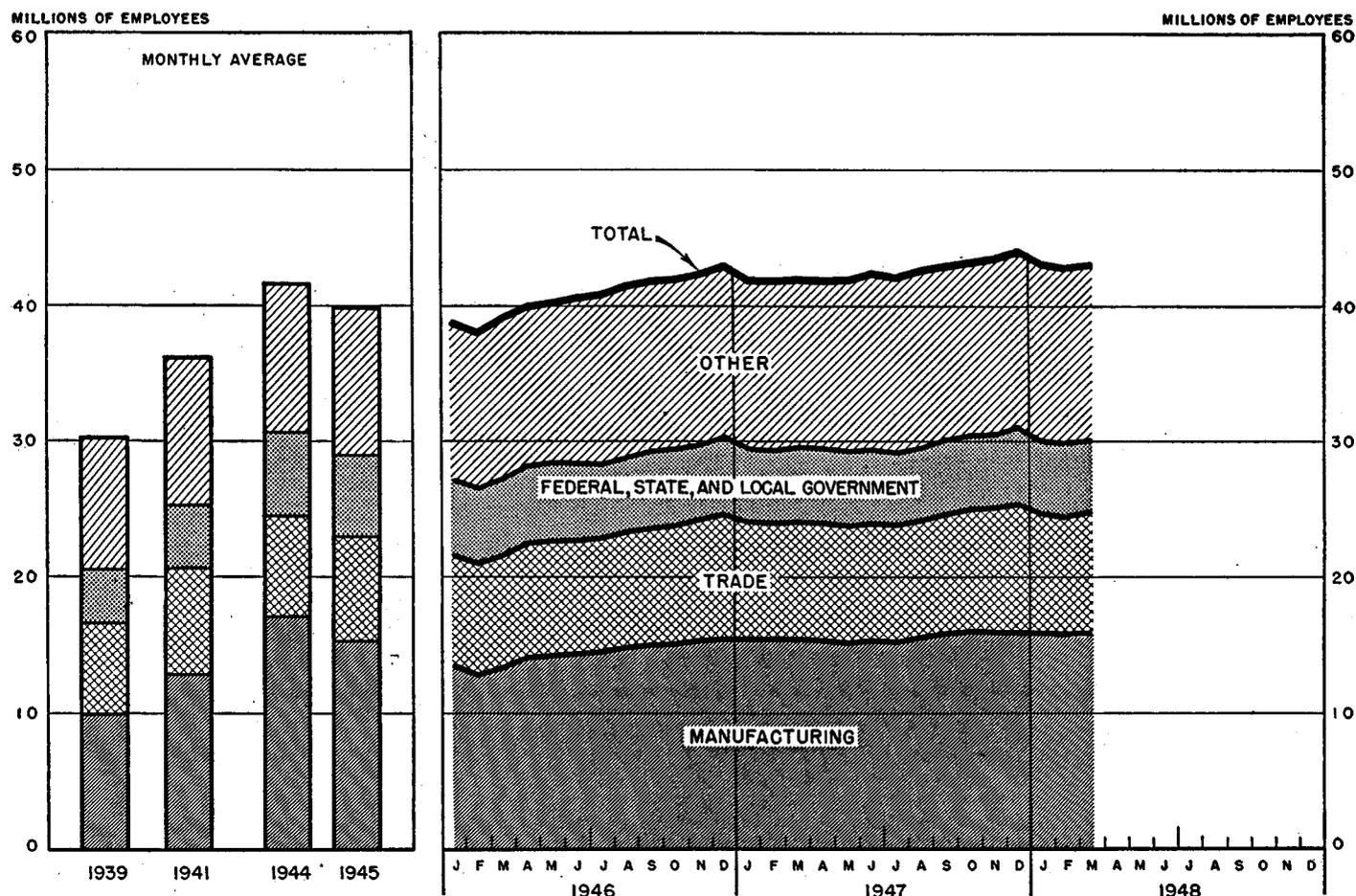
[Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over]

Period	Total labor force, including armed forces	Civilian employed			Armed forces	Unemployed
		Total	In non-agricultural industries	In agriculture		
1941 monthly average.....	57,380	50,350	41,250	9,100	1,470	5,560
1944 monthly average.....	65,890	53,960	45,010	8,950	11,260	670
1945 monthly average.....	65,140	52,820	44,240	8,580	11,280	1,040
1946 monthly average.....	60,820	55,250	46,930	8,320	3,300	2,270
1947 monthly average.....	61,608	58,027	49,761	8,266	1,440	2,142
1947: January.....	59,510	55,390	48,890	6,500	1,720	2,400
February.....	59,630	55,520	48,600	6,920	1,620	2,490
March.....	59,960	56,060	48,820	7,240	1,570	2,330
April.....	60,650	56,700	48,840	7,860	1,530	2,420
May.....	61,760	58,330	49,370	8,960	1,470	1,960
June.....	64,007	60,055	49,678	10,377	1,397	2,555
July.....	64,035	60,079	50,013	10,066	1,371	2,584
August.....	63,017	59,569	50,594	8,975	1,352	2,096
September.....	62,130	58,872	50,145	8,727	1,346	1,912
October.....	62,219	59,204	50,583	8,622	1,327	1,687
November.....	61,510	58,595	50,609	7,985	1,294	1,621
December.....	60,870	57,947	50,985	6,962	1,280	1,643
1948: January.....	60,455	57,149	50,089	7,060	1,242	2,065
February.....	61,004	57,139	50,368	6,771	1,226	2,639
March.....	61,005	57,329	50,482	6,847	1,236	2,440
April.....	61,760	58,330	50,883	7,448	1,237	2,193

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerce.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

The March increase in employment was reflected fairly evenly in major industry groups.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

[Thousands of persons]

Period	Total wage and salary workers ¹	Manufacturing	Trade	Federal, State, and local government	Other
1939 monthly average.....	30,287	10,078	6,705	3,987	9,517
1941 monthly average.....	36,164	12,974	7,567	4,622	11,001
1944 monthly average.....	41,480	17,111	7,399	6,026	10,944
1945 monthly average.....	39,977	15,302	7,654	5,967	11,054
1946 monthly average.....	40,712	14,365	8,448	5,595	12,305
1947 monthly average.....	42,539	15,553	8,712	5,411	12,863
1947: January.....	41,803	15,372	8,552	5,384	12,495
February.....	41,849	15,475	8,507	5,367	12,500
March.....	42,043	15,510	8,565	5,415	12,553
April.....	41,824	15,429	8,552	5,426	12,417
May.....	41,919	15,237	8,545	5,447	12,690
June.....	42,363	15,328	8,582	5,399	13,054
July.....	42,201	15,233	8,558	5,281	13,129
August.....	42,624	15,595	8,586	5,288	13,155
September.....	43,039	15,801	8,688	5,425	13,125
October.....	43,298	15,831	8,889	5,469	13,109
November.....	43,450	15,872	9,075	5,450	13,053
December.....	44,081	15,965	9,455	5,653	13,008
1948: January.....	43,015	15,878	8,821	5,417	12,899
February.....	42,683	15,775	8,738	5,387	12,783
March ²	43,004	15,870	8,797	5,426	12,911

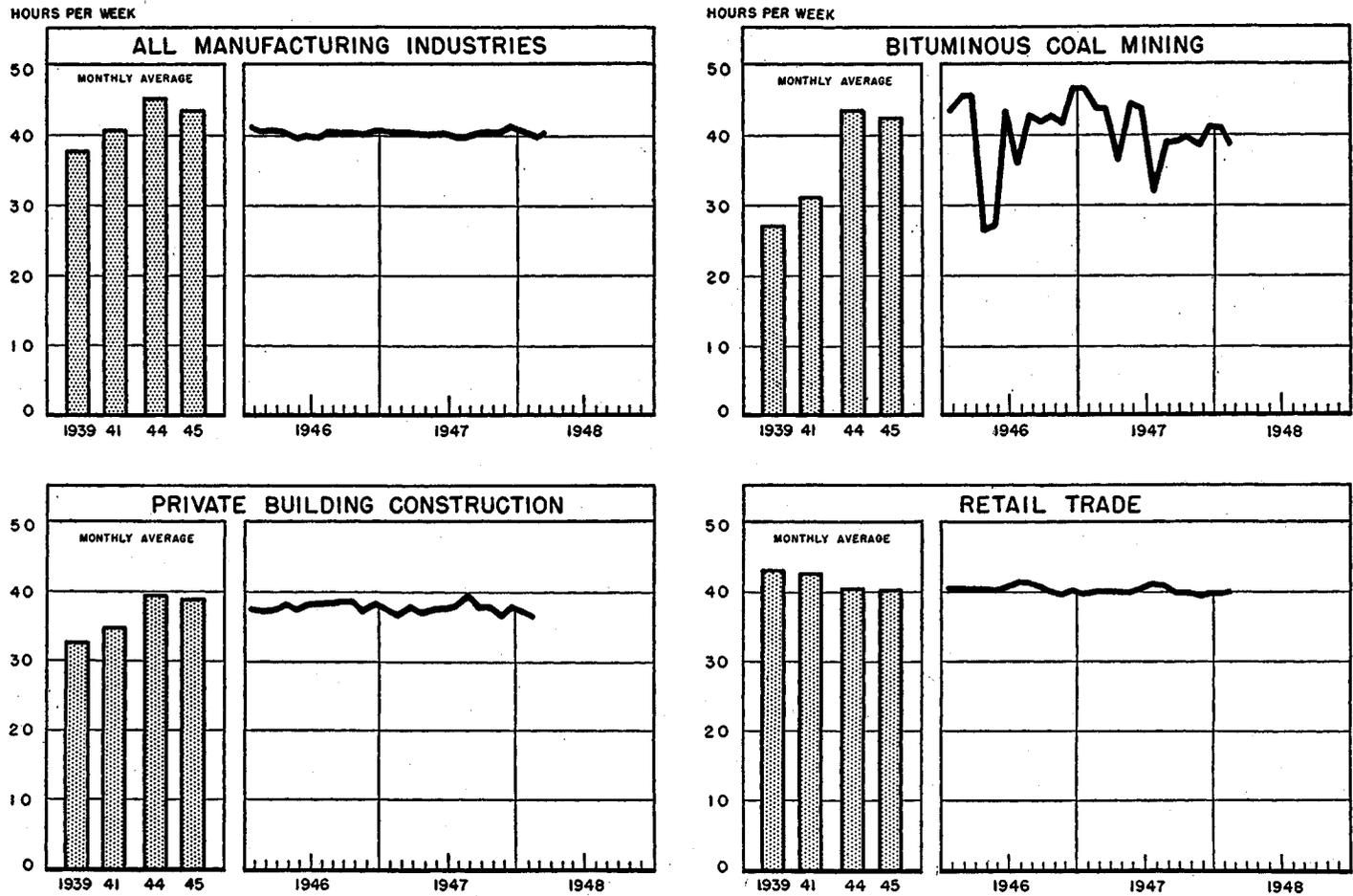
¹ Number of wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed persons, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Not comparable with estimates for nonagricultural employment of the civilian labor force, as reported by Department of Commerce, because latter includes self-employed, proprietors, and domestic servants and are based on population enumeration whereas estimates in this table are based on establishment reports.

² Preliminary.

Source: Department of Labor.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

A shorter workweek in bituminous coal mining in February was attributable primarily to the freight car shortage. The workweek for most other industries changed little. Preliminary data indicate little change in March for manufacturing.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Period	All manufacturing industries	Bituminous coal mining	Private building construction ¹	Retail trade
1939 monthly average.....	37.7	27.1	32.6	43.0
1941 monthly average.....	40.6	31.1	34.8	42.5
1944 monthly average.....	45.2	43.4	39.6	40.3
1945 monthly average.....	43.4	42.3	39.0	40.3
1946 monthly average.....	40.4	41.6	38.1	40.5
1947 monthly average.....	40.3	40.7	37.8	40.2
1947: January.....	40.6	46.7	37.6	39.9
February.....	40.4	43.6	36.9	40.1
March.....	40.4	43.7	38.0	40.0
April.....	40.1	36.4	37.1	40.0
May.....	40.1	44.3	37.7	40.0
June.....	40.2	43.7	37.7	40.8
July.....	39.8	31.8	37.9	41.1
August.....	39.8	39.1	39.7	41.0
September.....	40.4	39.1	38.0	40.0
October.....	40.6	39.9	38.0	40.0
November.....	40.4	38.5	36.6	39.5
December.....	41.2	41.2	37.9	39.7
1948: January.....	40.5	40.9	37.2	39.8
February ²	40.2	38.7	36.6	40.0
March ²	40.4			

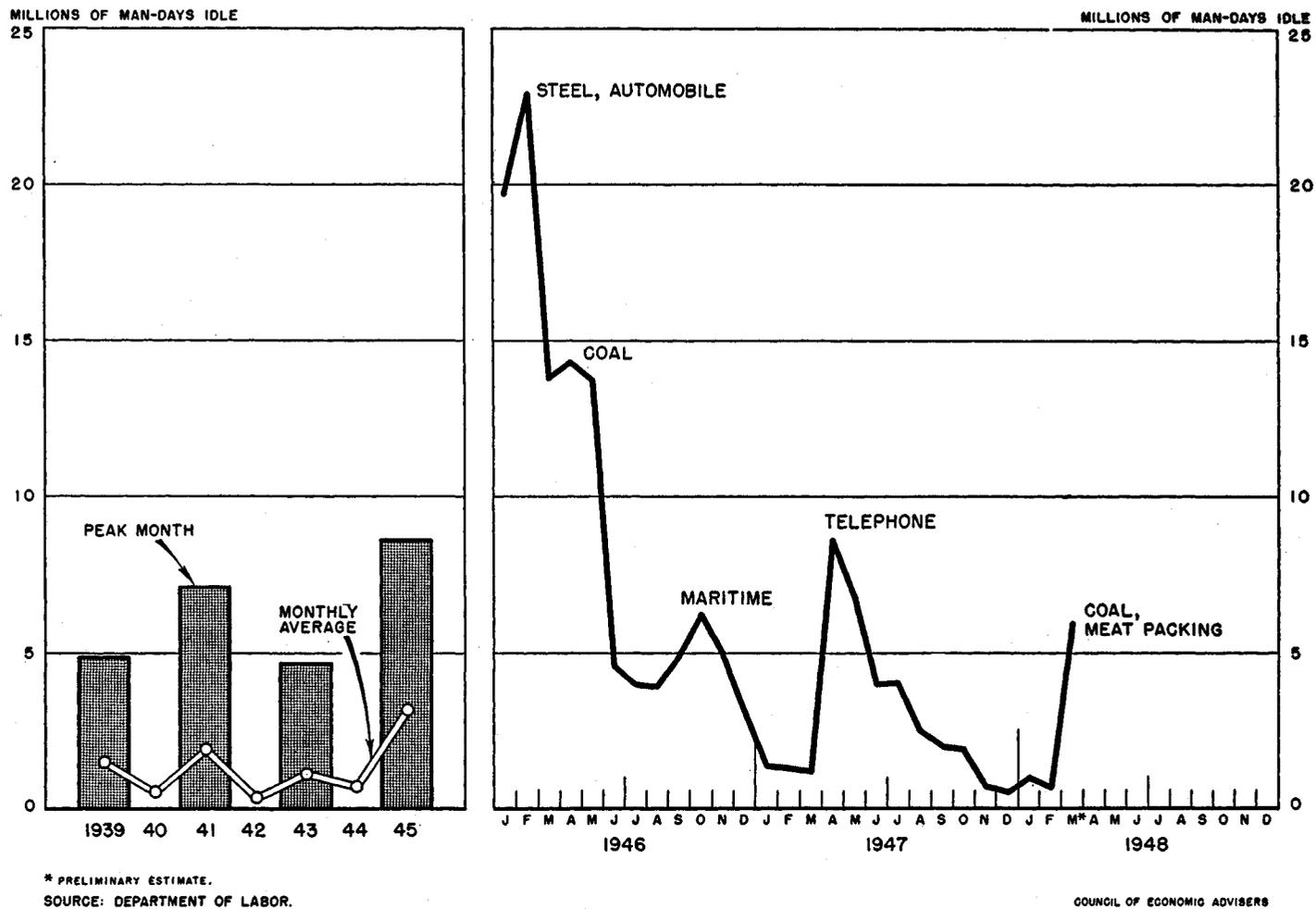
¹ Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects.

² Preliminary.

Source: Department of Labor.

WORK STOPPAGES

In March, more than 6 million work days were lost because of work stoppages in bituminous coal mining and meat packing industries.



* PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE.
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

WORK STOPPAGES

Period	Man-days idle (thousands)	Principal stoppage
1939: Monthly average.....	1,484	
April—peak month.....	4,902	Coal.
1940: Monthly average.....	559	
1941: Monthly average.....	1,921	
April—peak month.....	7,113	Coal.
1942: Monthly average.....	349	
1943: Monthly average.....	1,125	
June—peak month.....	4,699	Coal.
1944: Monthly average.....	727	
1945: Monthly average.....	3,168	
October—peak month.....	8,610	Coal.
1946: Monthly average.....	9,672	
1947: Monthly average.....	2,908	
1947: January.....	1,400	
February.....	1,300	
March.....	1,200	
April.....	8,600	Telephone.
May.....	6,800	Telephone.
June.....	4,000	
July.....	4,000	
August.....	2,500	
September.....	2,000	
October.....	1,900	
November.....	700	
December.....	500	
1948: January.....	1,000	
February.....	725	
March ¹	6,000	Coal, meat packing.

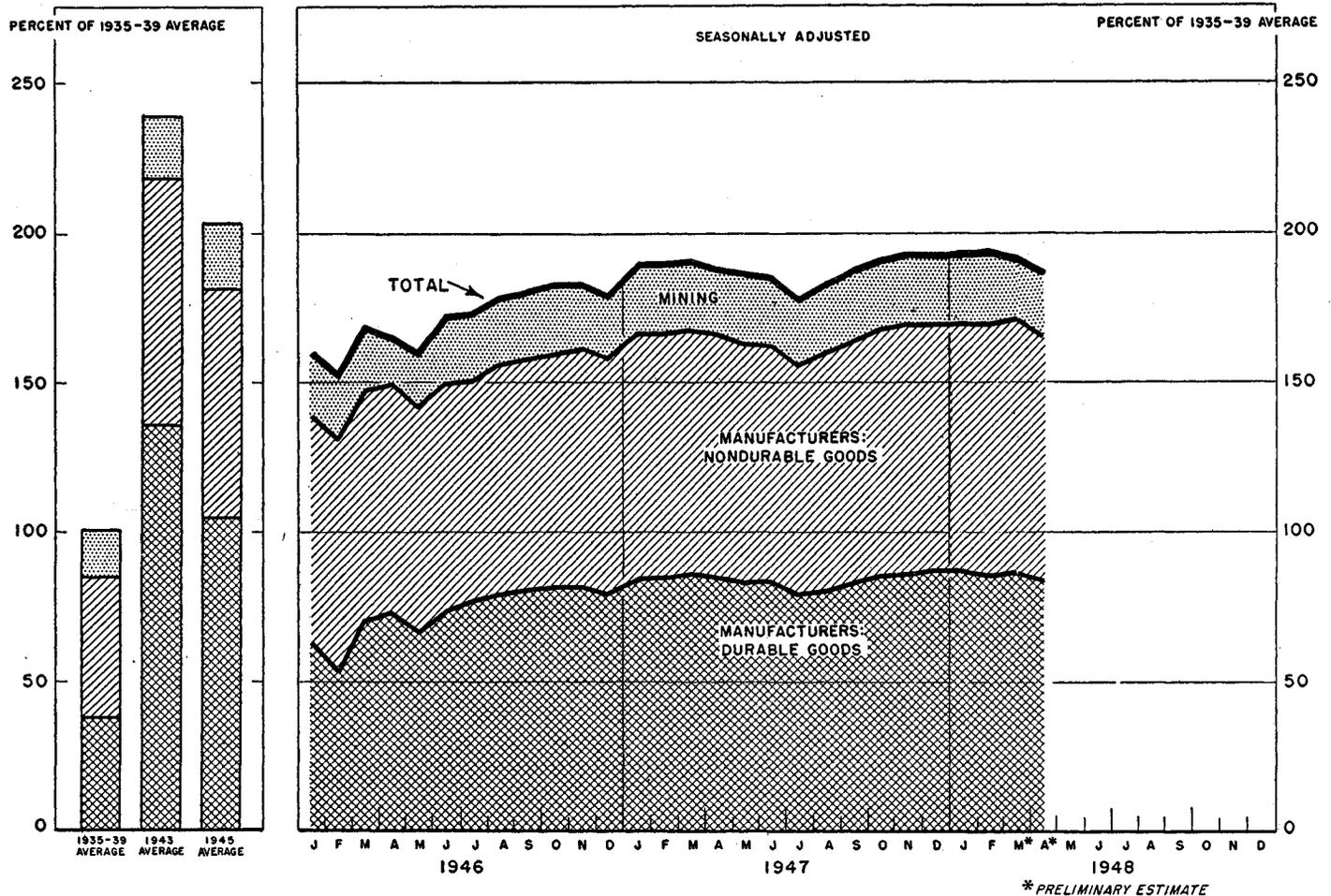
¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

Section D: PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

In March industrial production dropped a little below the peacetime record reached in February because the increase in durable goods was not enough to offset the decline in mining. Preliminary estimates indicate a further drop of 3 percent in April.



SOURCE: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Council of Economic Advisers

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

[Seasonally adjusted]

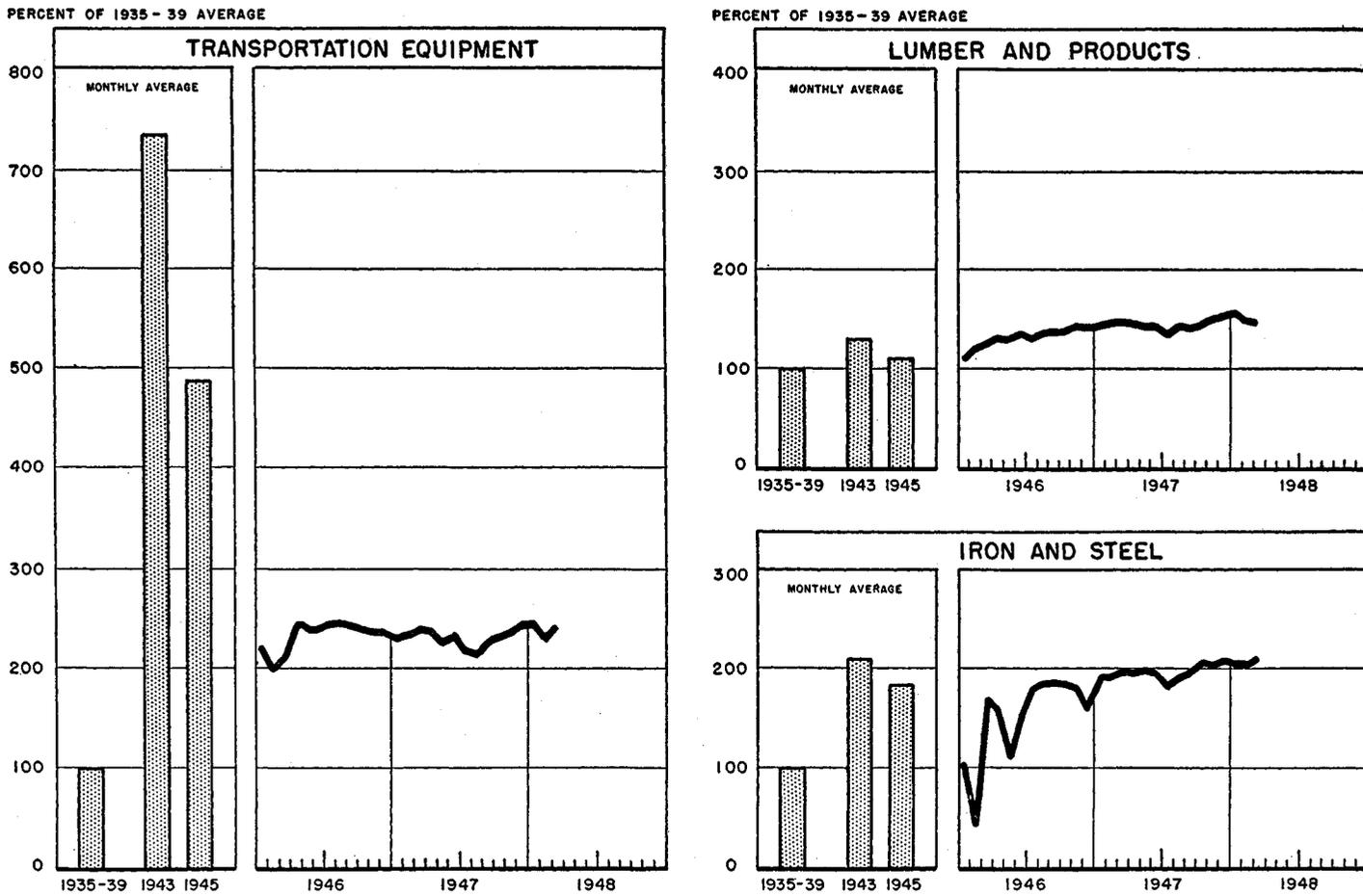
Period	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Points in total index, 1935-39 average for total=100		
	Total industrial production	Manufactures			Mining	Manufactures		Mining
		Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods		Durable goods	Nondurable goods	
1935-39 monthly average	100	100	100	100	100	38	47	15
1943 monthly average	239	258	360	176	132	136	83	20
1945 monthly average	203	214	274	166	137	104	78	21
1946 monthly average	170	177	192	165	134	73	77	21
1947 monthly average	187	193	220	172	149	83	81	23
1947: January	189	196	221	176	146	84	83	22
February	189	197	222	176	146	84	83	22
March	190	198	225	175	148	85	82	23
April	187	194	222	172	143	84	81	22
May	185	191	218	170	151	83	80	23
June	184	191	219	168	148	83	79	23
July	176	183	207	163	140	79	76	21
August	182	188	210	169	150	80	79	23
September	187	192	217	172	153	83	80	23
October	190	197	223	176	155	84	83	24
November	192	199	224	178	155	85	84	24
December	192	198	229	173	156	87	81	24
1948: January	193	200	229	178	154	87	83	23
February	194	201	226	180	155	86	84	24
March ¹	192	202	230	179	140	87	84	21
April ¹	186	194	219	174	140	83	82	21

¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DURABLE MANUFACTURES

Production of transportation equipment was up about 5 percent in March; iron and steel, up about 3 percent, reached the highest point since March 1945.



SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DURABLE MANUFACTURES ¹

[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

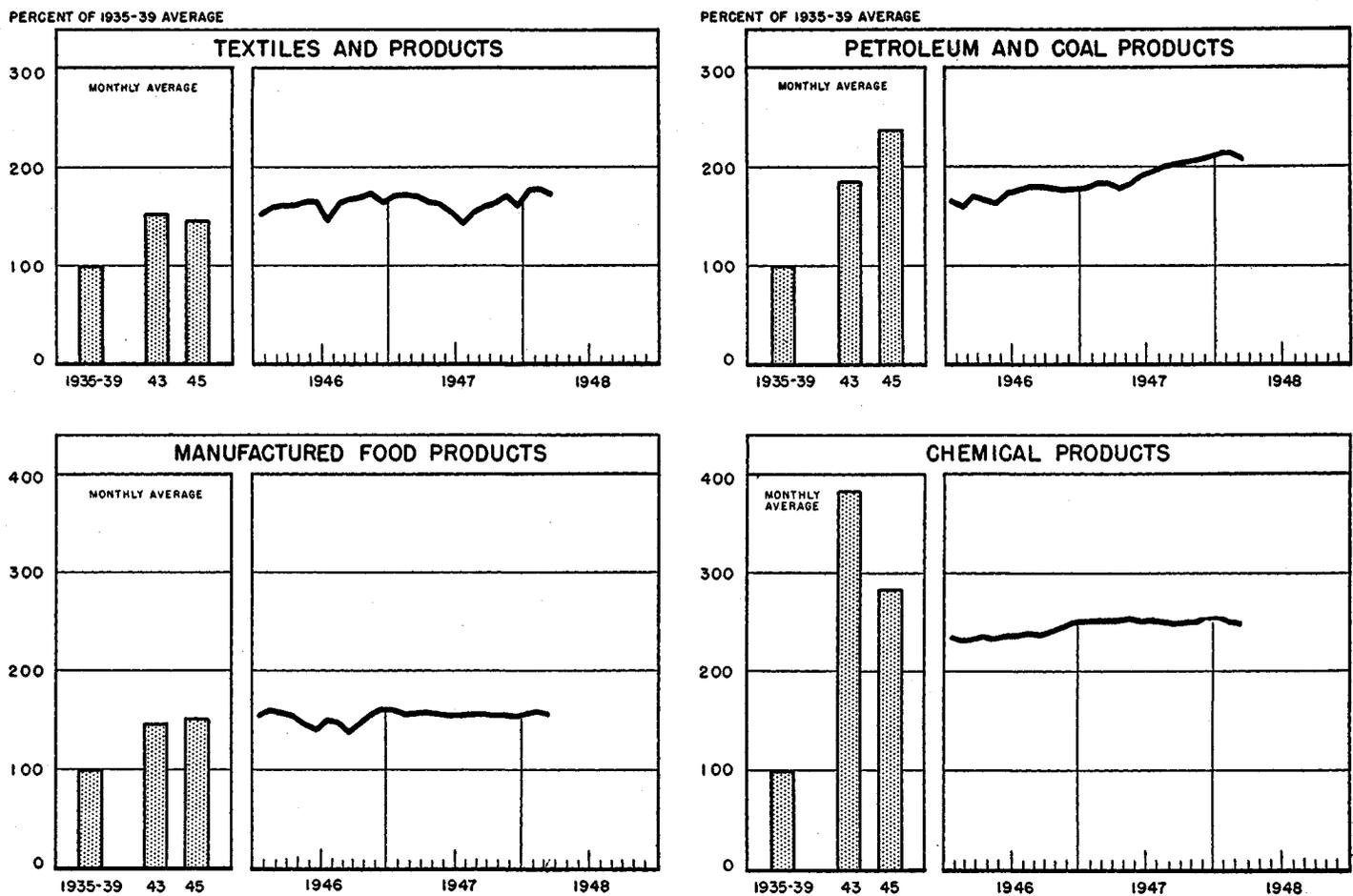
Period	Transportation equipment	Lumber and products	Iron and steel
1935-39 monthly average.....	100	100	100
1943 monthly average.....	734	130	208
1945 monthly average.....	487	110	183
1946 monthly average.....	232	130	150
1947 monthly average.....	230	144	195
1947: January.....	229	142	192
February.....	233	147	191
March.....	239	147	196
April.....	237	144	195
May.....	225	142	197
June.....	233	142	193
July.....	217	133	181
August.....	213	142	188
September.....	227	140	195
October.....	232	143	204
November.....	234	150	202
December.....	243	153	205
1948: January.....	244	156	203
February.....	231	150	203
March.....	242	147	209

¹ These are selected groups of the durable manufactures total shown on page 10. The total also includes machinery, nonferrous metals and products, and stone, clay, and glass products.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES

The output of petroleum and coal products and of textiles dropped about 3 percent in March. Smaller decreases were registered in the output of manufactured food products and chemical products



SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES ¹

[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

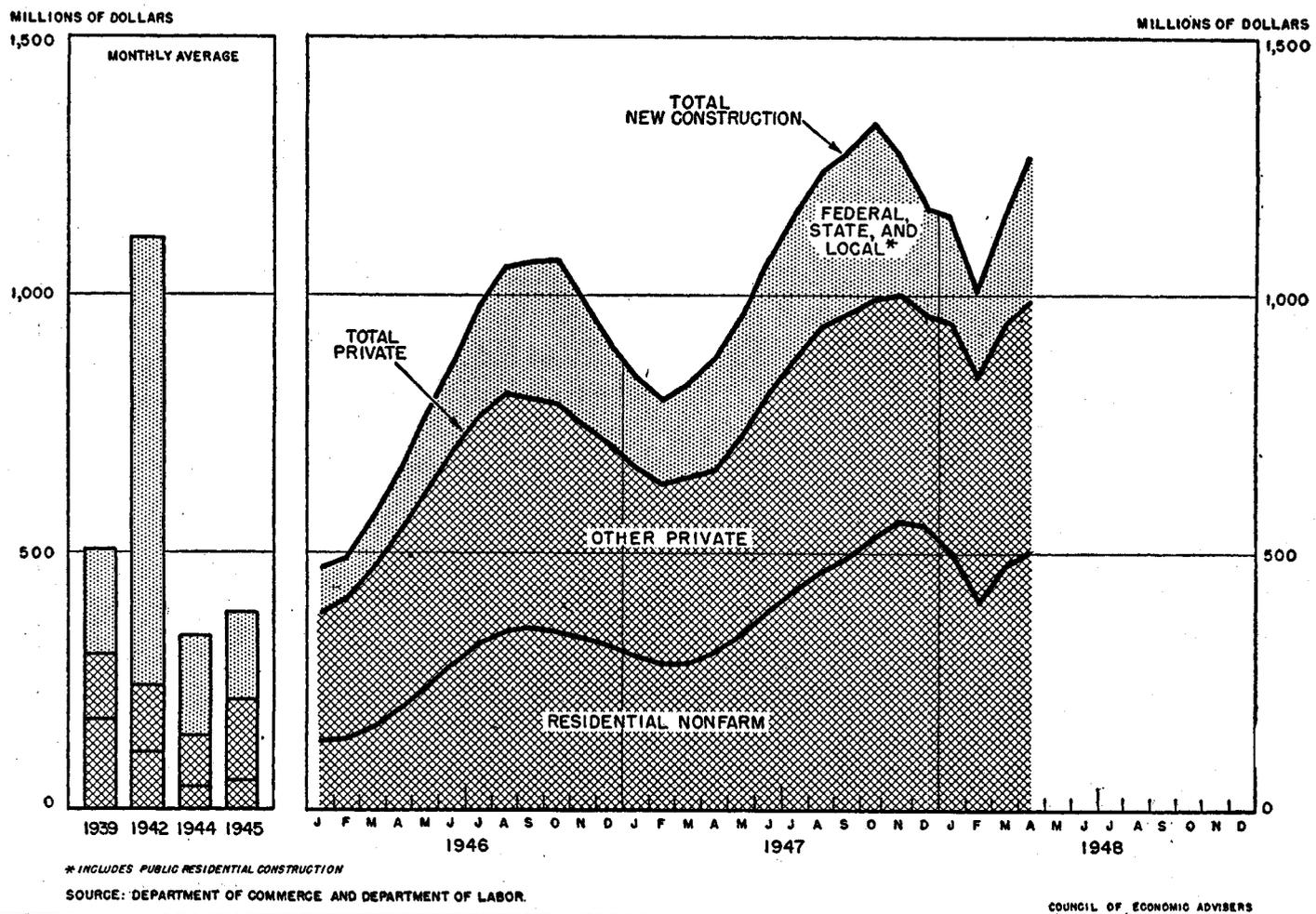
Period	Textiles and products	Petroleum and coal products	Manufactured food products	Chemical products
1935-39 monthly average.....	100	100	100	100
1943 monthly average.....	153	185	145	384
1945 monthly average.....	146	235	151	284
1946 monthly average.....	162	173	150	236
1947 monthly average.....	163	193	157	251
1947: January.....	172	180	161	251
February.....	173	185	156	251
March.....	172	185	157	251
April.....	166	179	158	251
May.....	164	184	155	253
June.....	155	191	154	250
July.....	142	195	155	251
August.....	154	201	157	249
September.....	160	203	158	248
October.....	164	204	156	248
November.....	172	205	158	251
December.....	163	208	157	255
1948: January.....	178	214	158	255
February.....	179	214	160	251
March.....	174	208	158	250

¹ These are selected groups of the nondurable manufactures total shown on page 10. The total also includes leather and products, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, paper and paper products, and printing and publishing.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Preliminary estimates indicate that construction increased seasonally in April.



NEW CONSTRUCTION

[Millions of dollars]

Period	Total new construction	Private construction			Federal, State, and local ¹
		Total private	Residential (nonfarm)	Other	
1939 monthly average	505	302	176	125	204
1942 monthly average	1,113	242	110	133	870
1944 monthly average	339	145	45	101	194
1945 monthly average	384	213	57	156	171
1946 monthly average	824	645	265	380	179
1947 monthly average	1,069	823	411	411	246
1947—January	839	666	300	366	173
February	795	634	284	350	161
March	826	648	285	363	178
April	876	662	306	356	214
May	955	722	342	380	233
June	1,070	811	387	424	259
July	1,161	876	429	447	285
August	1,242	937	461	476	305
September	1,279	962	490	472	317
October	1,334	990	530	460	344
November	1,272	1,001	565	436	271
December	1,176	962	555	407	214
1948—January	1,157	948	500	448	209
February	1,009	837	400	437	172
March	1,166	941	475	466	225
April ²	1,269	990	500	490	279

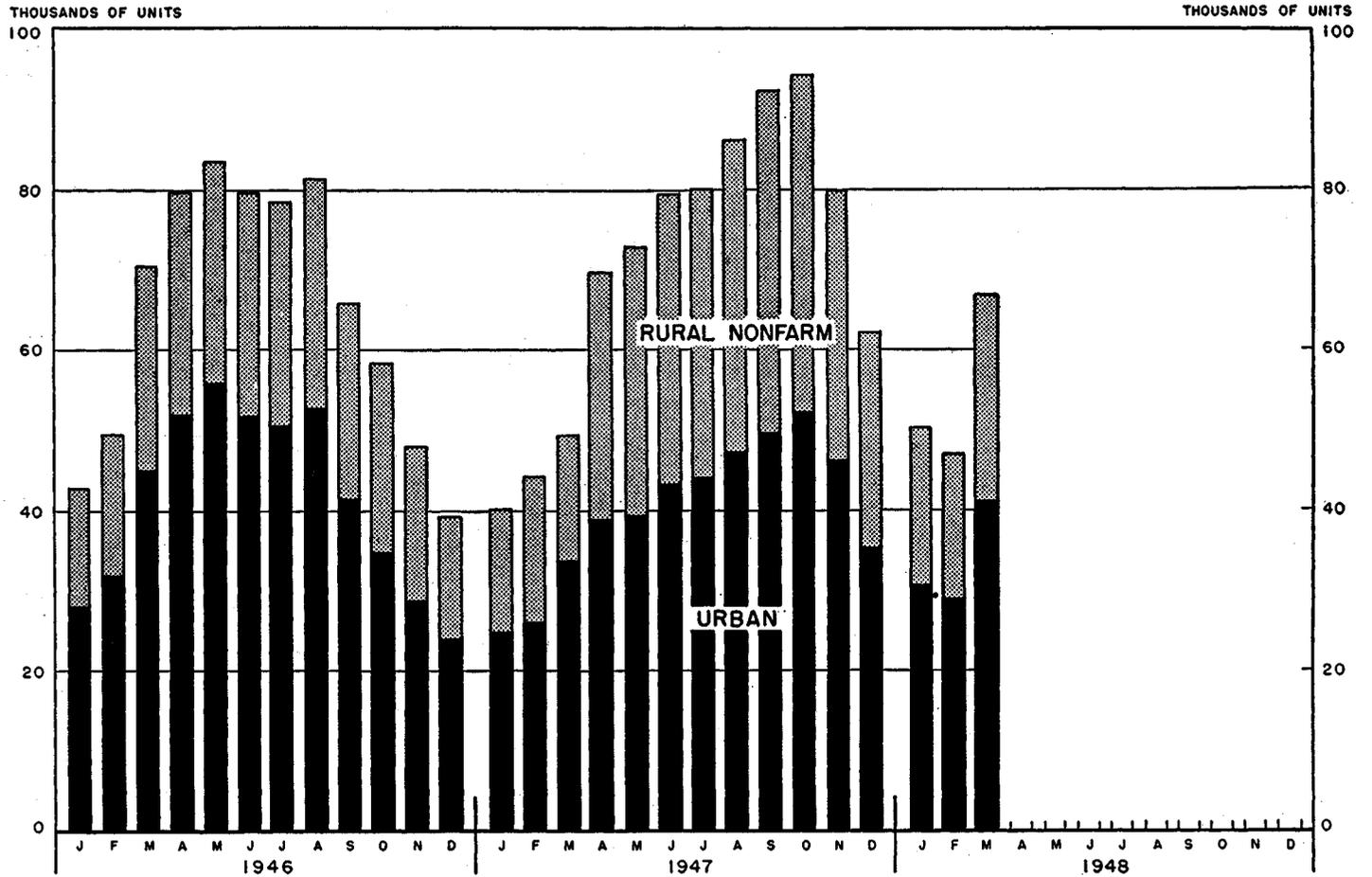
¹ Includes public residential construction.

² Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

NEW HOUSING STARTS*

Starts in March were about 40 percent above February and about 15 percent above a year ago.



* NEW NONFARM FAMILY DWELLING UNITS.
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

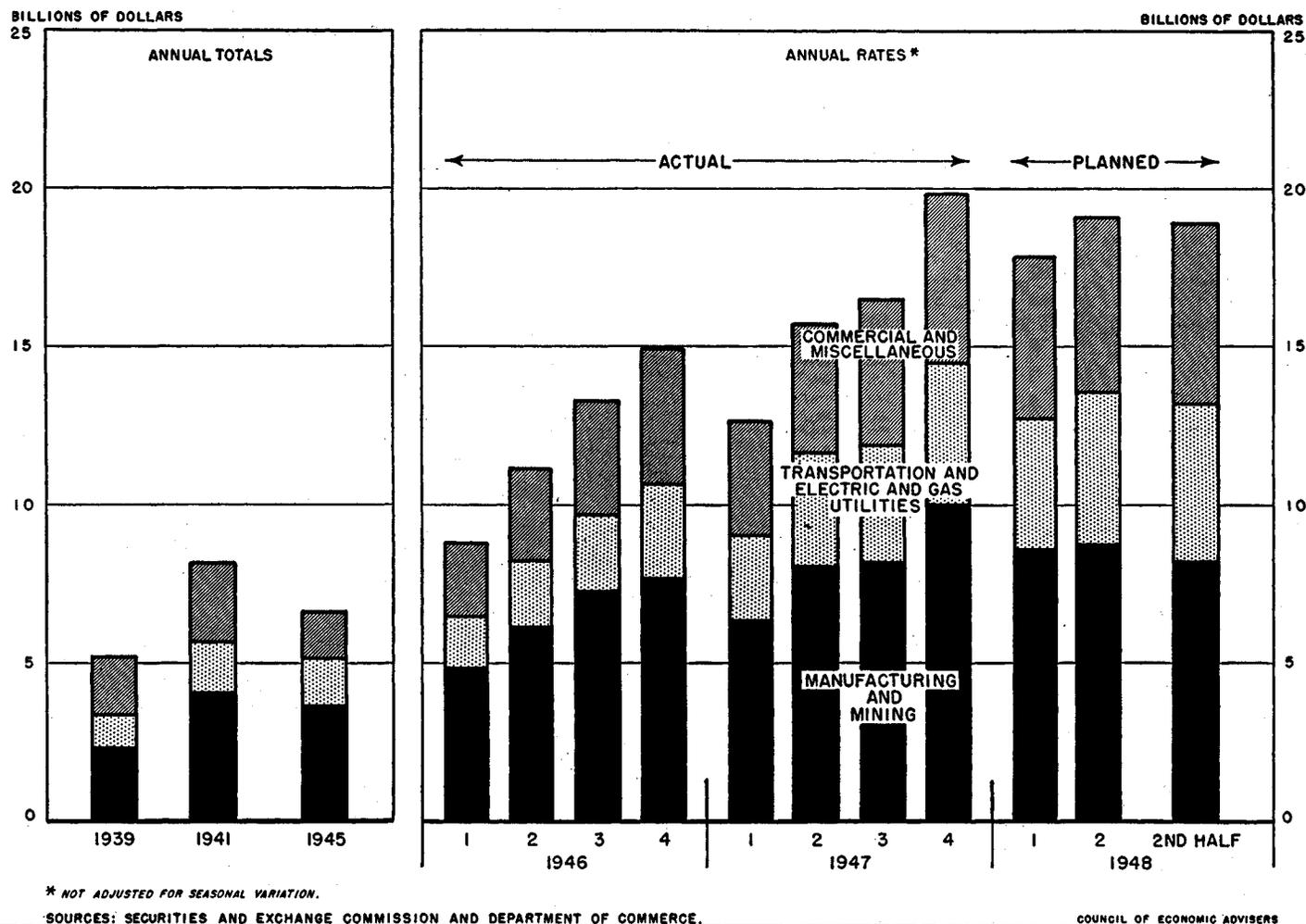
NEW HOUSING STARTS¹

Period	New nonfarm units (conventional and prefabricated)		
	Total	Urban	Rural nonfarm
1946 monthly average.....	64,683	41,164	23,520
1947 monthly average.....	71,583	39,910	31,674
1946: January.....	42,500	27,351	15,149
February.....	49,300	31,625	17,675
March.....	70,400	44,922	25,478
April.....	79,900	51,925	27,975
May.....	83,400	55,671	27,729
June.....	79,800	51,569	28,231
July.....	78,500	50,202	28,298
August.....	81,300	52,506	28,794
September.....	65,800	41,159	24,641
October.....	58,200	34,638	23,562
November.....	47,800	28,733	19,067
December.....	39,300	23,662	15,638
1947: January.....	40,100	24,611	15,489
February.....	44,100	25,774	18,326
March.....	59,100	33,674	25,426
April.....	69,500	38,858	30,642
May.....	72,700	39,376	33,324
June.....	79,400	43,005	36,395
July.....	80,100	43,962	36,138
August.....	86,200	47,092	39,108
September.....	92,000	49,313	42,687
October.....	93,800	51,970	41,830
November.....	80,000	46,185	33,815
December.....	62,000	35,095	26,905
1948: January ²	50,000	30,400	19,600
February ²	47,000	28,800	18,200
March ²	67,000	41,000	26,000

¹ New nonfarm family dwelling units. ² Preliminary.
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Labor.

EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Expenditures planned by business, exclusive of agriculture, for 1948 are estimated 15 percent higher than actual expenditures for 1947.



EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

(Millions of dollars, annual rates, not adjusted for seasonal)

Period	Total ¹	Manufacturing	Mining	Transportation		Electric and gas utilities	Commercial and miscellaneous ²
				Railroad	Other		
1939.....	5,200	1,930	380	280	280	480	1,850
1941.....	8,190	3,400	680	560	340	710	2,490
1945.....	6,630	3,210	440	550	320	680	1,480
1946.....	12,040	5,910	560	570	660	1,040	3,300
1947.....	16,200	7,460	690	920	800	1,900	4,430
1948 ³	18,710	7,760	690	1,620	780	2,300	5,560
1946: First quarter.....	8,800	4,400	440	400	520	720	2,320
Second quarter.....	11,160	5,600	520	520	680	920	2,960
Third quarter.....	13,240	6,600	640	640	680	1,120	3,600
Fourth quarter.....	14,920	7,040	640	720	800	1,440	4,320
1947: First quarter.....	12,640	5,800	600	640	720	1,320	3,600
Second quarter.....	15,760	7,400	640	880	920	1,800	4,120
Third quarter.....	16,560	7,480	720	920	800	2,000	4,640
Fourth quarter.....	19,840	9,160	840	1,240	760	2,480	5,360
1948: First quarter ³	17,920	7,760	800	1,360	720	2,040	5,280
Second quarter ³	19,120	8,000	760	1,560	840	2,400	5,600
Second half ³	18,900	7,640	600	1,780	780	2,380	5,680

¹ Excludes agriculture.

² Includes trade, service, finance, and communication.

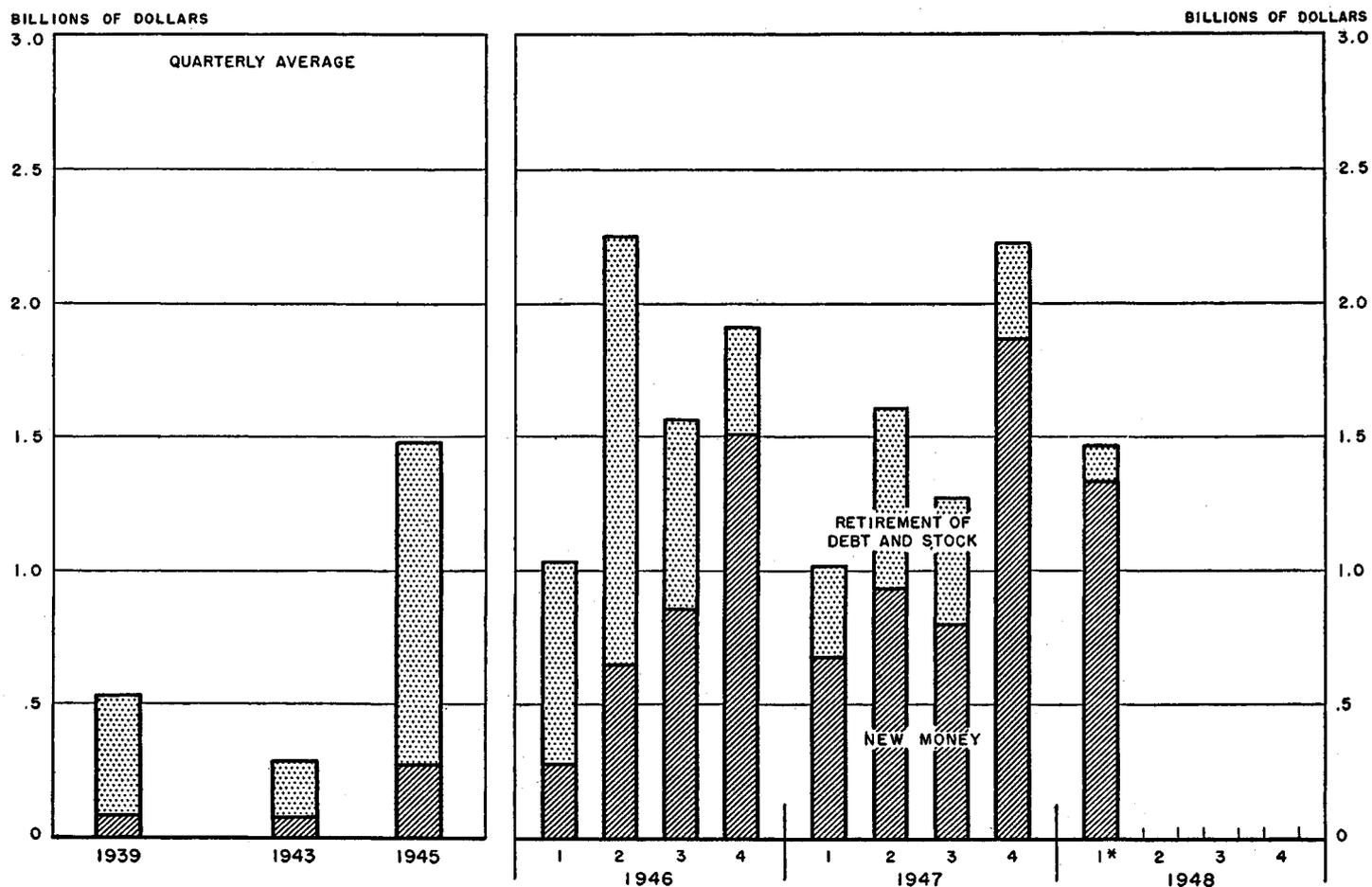
³ Estimates based on anticipated capital expenditures of business.

NOTE.—These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the latter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense. Figures for 1939-44 are Federal Reserve Board estimates based on Securities and Exchange Commission and other data. Detail will not necessarily add to totals because figures are rounded to the nearest 10,000,000.

Sources: Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Commerce (except as noted).

NEW CORPORATE SECURITY ISSUES

In the first quarter of 1948 new issues, less than the previous quarter, were about the 1947 average. New money accounted for a larger part of the total.



* INCLUDES PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE FOR MARCH
SOURCE: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

NEW CORPORATE SECURITY ISSUES

PROPOSED USES OF NET PROCEEDS

[Millions of dollars]

Period	Estimated net proceeds	Proposed uses of net proceeds	
		New money	Retirement of debt and stock ¹
1939 quarterly average.....	529	81	448
1943 quarterly average.....	287	77	210
1945 quarterly average.....	1,476	270	1,206
1946 quarterly average.....	1,689	820	869
1947 quarterly average.....	1,528	1,068	460
1946: First quarter.....	1,032	275	756
Second quarter.....	2,253	645	1,608
Third quarter.....	1,562	853	708
Fourth quarter.....	1,911	1,506	304
1947: First quarter.....	1,018	673	344
Second quarter.....	1,605	932	672
Third quarter.....	1,267	797	469
Fourth quarter.....	2,222	1,867	354
1948: First quarter ²	1,478	1,332	146

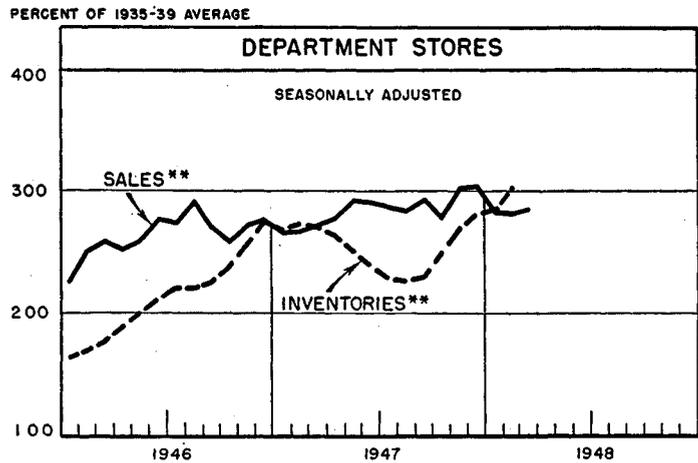
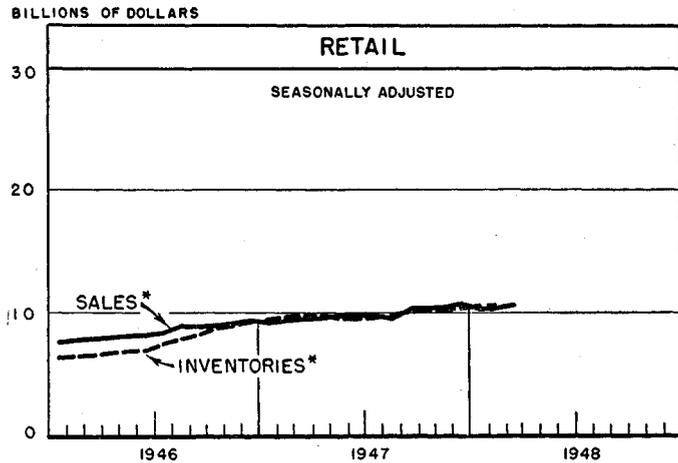
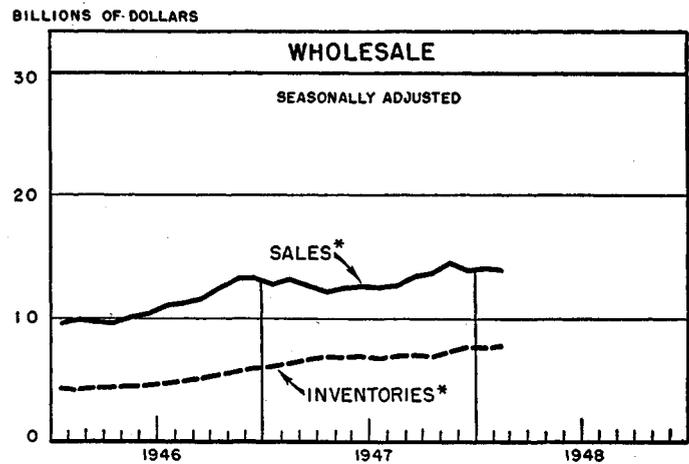
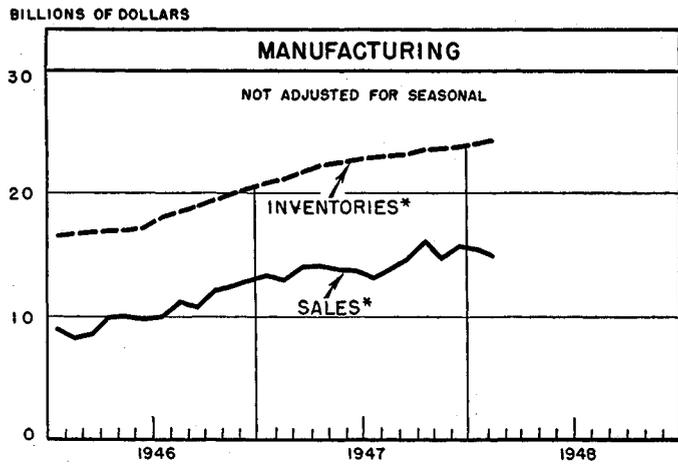
¹ Includes small amount for other purposes.

² Includes preliminary estimate for March.

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

INVENTORIES AND SALES

Inventories rose slightly in value and sales dropped slightly in February.



* SALES ARE TOTAL FOR MONTH AND INVENTORIES ARE BOOK VALUE, END OF MONTH.

** INDEXES COMPUTED FROM DATA ON RETAIL VALUE OF SALES FOR MONTH AND RETAIL BOOK VALUE OF INVENTORIES, END OF MONTH.

SOURCES: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

INVENTORIES AND SALES

Period	Manufacturing ¹		Wholesale ²		Retail ²		Department stores	
	Inventories ³	Sales ⁴	Inventories ³	Sales ⁴	Inventories ³	Sales ⁴	Inventories	Sales
	Millions of dollars						1935-39 = 100 seasonally adjusted ⁵	
1946: January	16,369	8,913	4,294	9,644	6,286	7,462	167	227
February	16,590	8,163	4,209	9,868	6,446	7,671	171	248
March	16,829	9,507	4,304	9,691	6,522	7,783	177	255
April	16,837	9,956	4,390	9,592	6,729	7,948	189	252
May	16,934	10,058	4,464	10,087	6,899	8,082	200	259
June	17,175	9,702	4,578	10,370	7,043	8,101	210	277
July	18,010	9,976	4,685	10,998	7,426	8,444	222	272
August	18,466	11,157	4,890	11,174	7,793	8,943	221	291
September	18,886	10,738	5,131	11,402	8,216	8,811	226	271
October	19,533	12,240	5,343	12,399	8,716	8,806	237	258
November	19,896	12,426	5,713	13,069	8,931	8,999	256	270
December	20,259	12,849	5,994	13,052	9,141	9,205	274	270
1947: January	20,805	13,226	6,248	12,683	9,337	9,097	268	268
February	21,176	12,940	6,444	12,996	9,582	9,285	274	266
March	21,612	13,937	6,611	12,627	9,715	9,399	273	272
April	22,058	13,906	6,778	12,218	9,703	9,610	264	277
May	22,424	13,688	6,737	12,369	9,502	9,681	252	291
June	22,618	13,602	6,864	12,541	9,440	9,743	242	288
July	22,778	13,115	6,726	12,403	9,574	9,730	231	286
August	22,936	13,651	6,886	12,523	9,838	9,621	227	288
September	23,120	14,628	6,997	13,263	10,052	10,162	231	292
October	23,398	15,964	6,943	13,615	10,202	10,258	251	277
November	23,577	14,678	7,349	14,333	10,199	10,485	273	302
December	23,702	15,691	7,577	13,697	10,352	10,653	283	308
1948: January	24,000	15,300	7,618	14,092	10,562	10,445	288	284
February ⁶	24,300	14,900	7,754	14,028	10,841	10,374	303	288
March ⁶						10,425	312	288

¹ Not adjusted for seasonal variation.

² Adjusted for seasonal variation.

³ Book value, end of month.

⁴ Total for month.

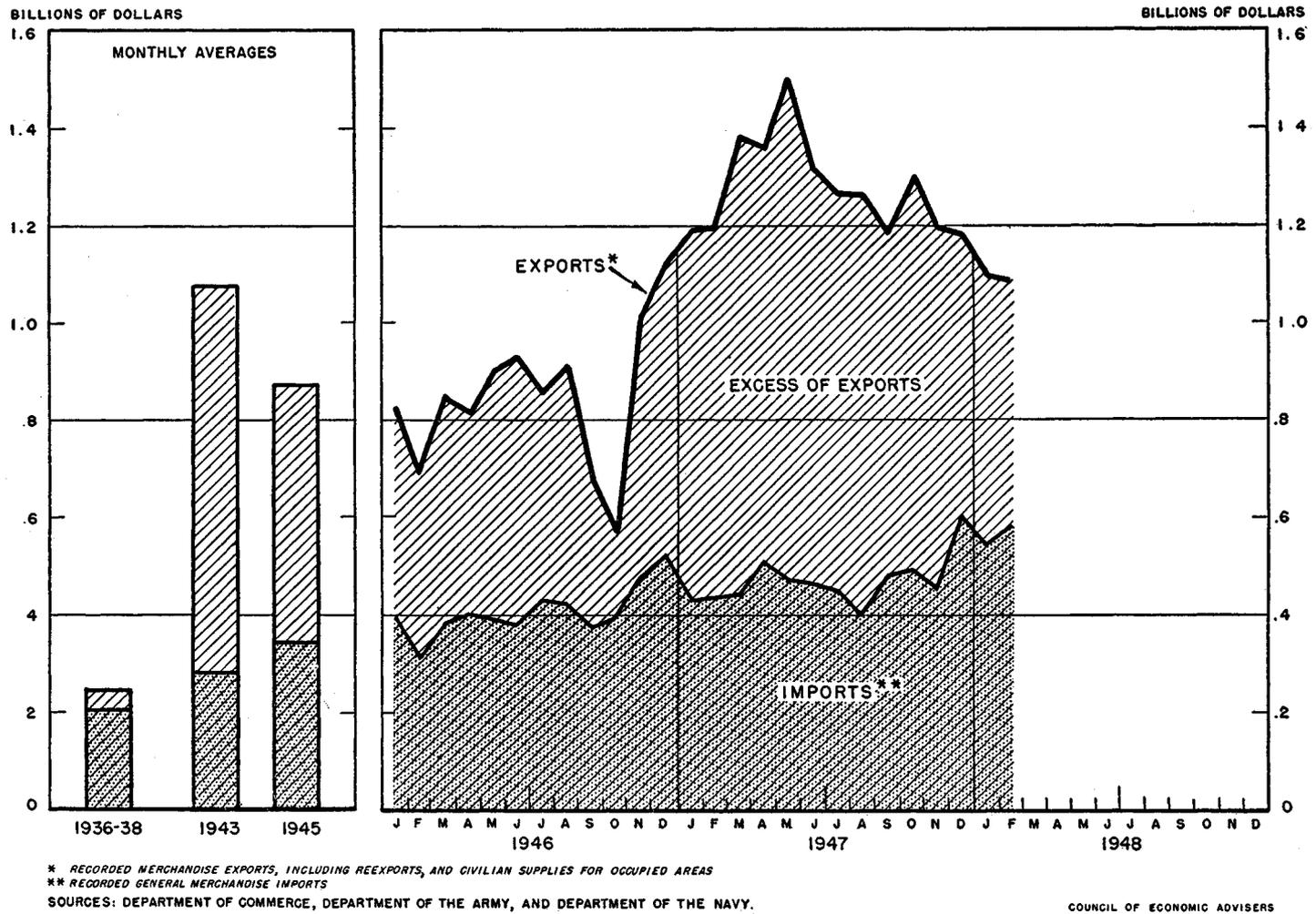
⁵ Indexes computed from data on retail value of sales for month and retail book value of inventories, end of month.

⁶ Preliminary.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

The value of exports showed little change in February despite the shorter month; imports increased.



EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

[Millions of dollars]

Period	Exports ¹	Imports ²	Excess of exports
1936-38 monthly average.....	247	207	40
1943 monthly average.....	1,080	282	798
1945 monthly average.....	877	346	531
1946 monthly average.....	849	409	440
1947 monthly average.....	1,281	478	803
1947: January.....	1,193	531	662
February.....	1,198	437	761
March.....	1,383	444	939
April.....	1,362	512	850
May.....	1,503	474	1,029
June.....	1,320	463	857
July.....	1,265	450	815
August.....	1,265	400	865
September.....	1,183	481	702
October.....	1,303	492	811
November.....	1,195	455	740
December.....	1,199	601	598
1948: January.....	1,091	546	545
February.....	1,086	582	504
March.....	1,141	666	475

¹ Recorded merchandise exports, including reexports, and civilian supplies for occupied areas.

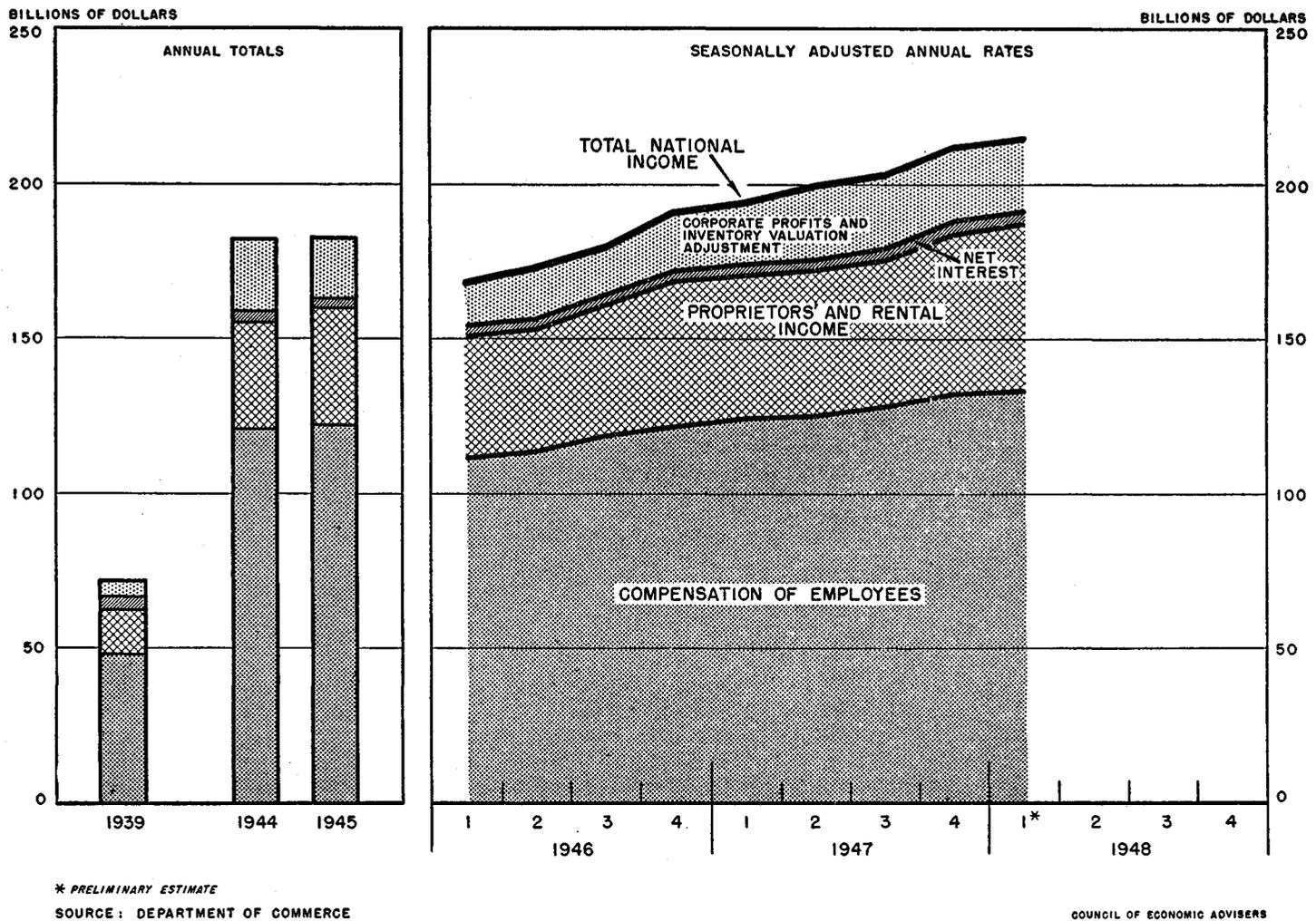
² Recorded general merchandise imports.

Sources: Department of Commerce, Department of the Army, and Department of the Navy.

Section E: PURCHASING POWER

NATIONAL INCOME

Moved up moderately in the first quarter. The increase in national income reflected mainly the increase in prices.



NATIONAL INCOME

[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total	Compensation of employees	Proprietors' and rental income	Net interest	Corporate profits and inventory valuation adjustment
1939	72.5	47.8	14.7	4.2	5.8
1944	182.3	121.2	34.4	3.2	23.5
1945	182.8	122.9	37.1	3.1	19.7
1946	178.2	116.8	41.8	3.2	16.5
1947	202.6	128.1	47.8	3.6	23.0
Seasonally adjusted annual rates					
1946: First quarter	168.2	111.5	39.4	3.1	14.2
1946: Second quarter	173.5	114.0	39.2	3.2	17.2
1946: Third quarter	179.9	119.2	41.9	3.2	15.6
1946: Fourth quarter	191.0	122.2	46.7	3.2	18.8
1947: First quarter	194.6	124.7	46.2	3.3	20.4
1947: Second quarter	199.8	125.6	46.7	3.5	23.9
1947: Third quarter	203.3	128.7	47.0	3.7	23.9
1947: Fourth quarter	212.3	132.9	51.5	3.8	² 23.9
1948: First quarter ¹	215.0	134.0	53.2	3.9	² 23.9

¹ Preliminary estimate.

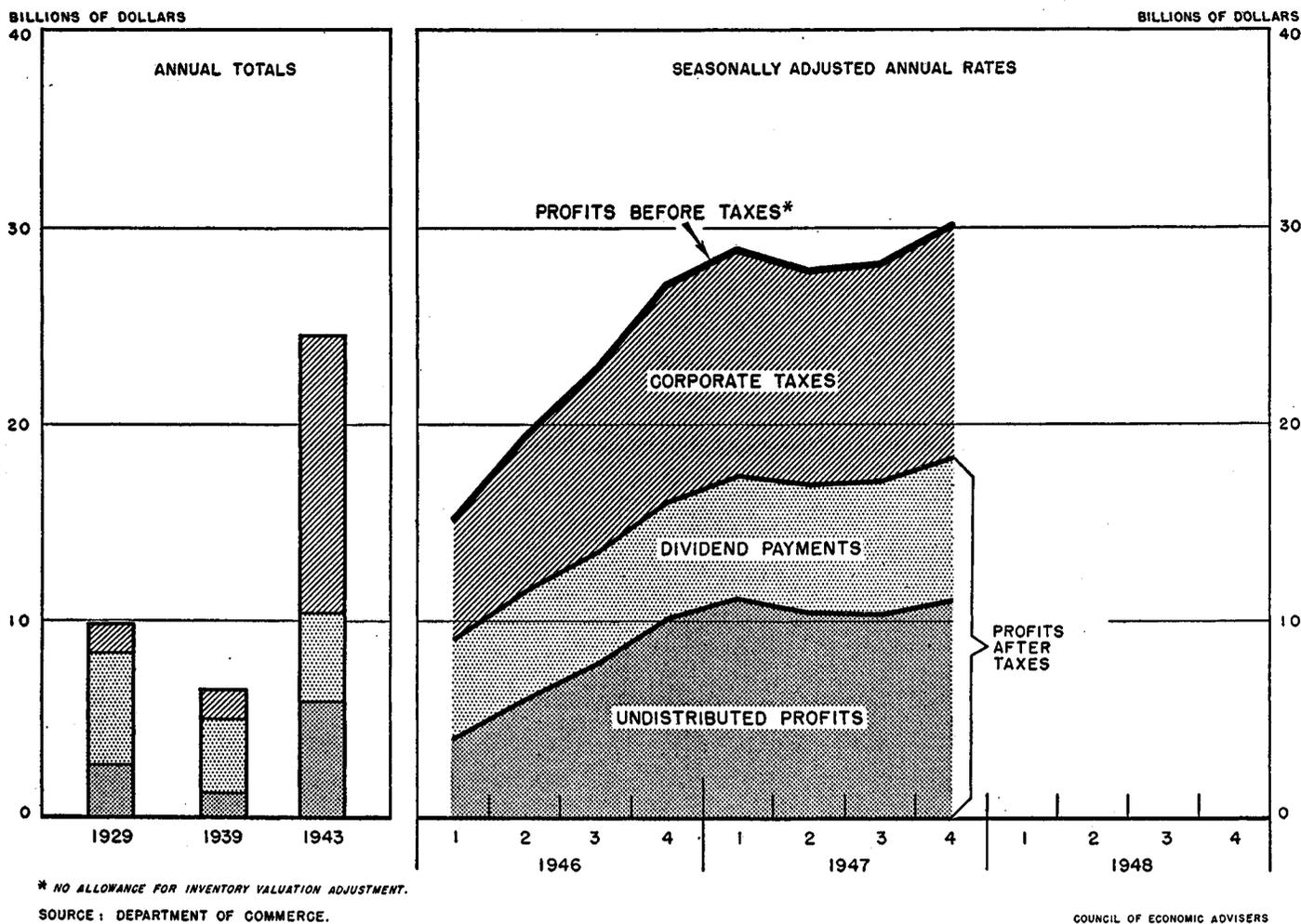
² Estimate at level indicated by Commerce's last tabulation of profits after inventory valuation adjustment, which was for the third quarter of 1947.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

CORPORATE PROFITS

Were at record dollar levels in 1947. Dividend payments increased in fourth quarter and were substantially above a year earlier.



CORPORATE PROFITS

ALL PRIVATE CORPORATIONS

[Billions of dollars]

Period	Corporate profits before taxes	Corporate tax liability	Corporate profits after taxes		
			Total	Dividend payments	Undistributed profits
1929.....	9.8	1.4	8.4	5.8	2.6
1939.....	6.5	1.5	5.0	3.8	1.2
1943.....	24.5	14.2	10.4	4.5	5.9
1946.....	21.1	8.6	12.5	5.6	6.9
1947.....	28.7	11.3	17.4	6.8	10.6
Seasonally adjusted annual rates					
1946: First quarter.....	15.2	6.1	9.1	5.1	4.0
Second quarter.....	19.4	8.0	11.5	5.4	6.1
Third quarter.....	22.9	9.3	13.5	5.6	7.9
Fourth quarter.....	27.1	11.0	16.1	5.9	10.2
1947: First quarter.....	28.9	11.5	17.4	6.3	11.1
Second quarter.....	27.8	10.9	16.9	6.5	10.4
Third quarter.....	28.2	11.1	17.1	6.8	10.3
Fourth quarter ¹	30.0	12.0	18.0	7.3	10.7

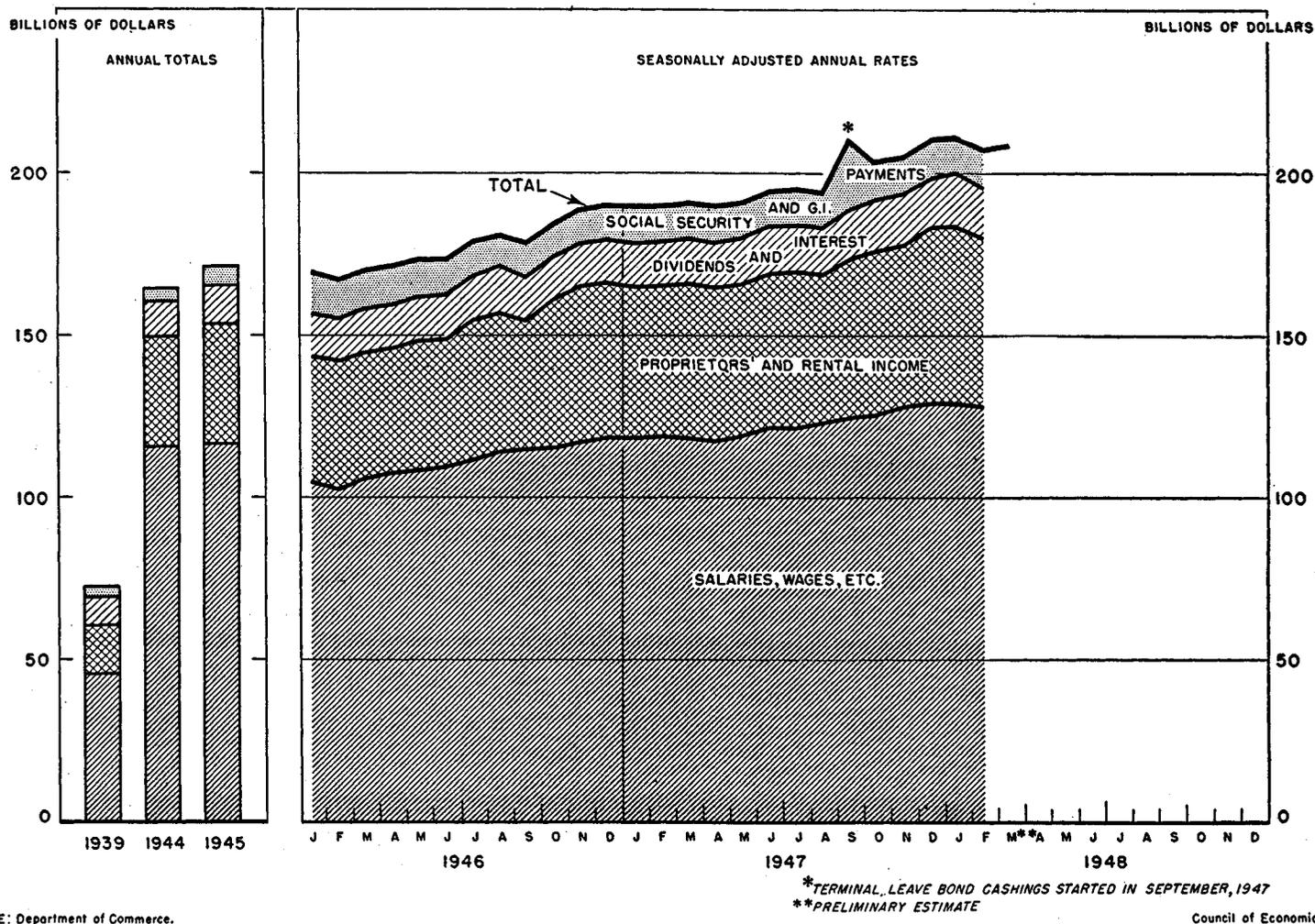
¹ Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—No allowance has been made for inventory valuation adjustment. Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

PERSONAL INCOME

Decreases in wage and salary receipts and proprietors' and rental income in February brought total personal income down.



PERSONAL INCOME

[Billions of dollars]

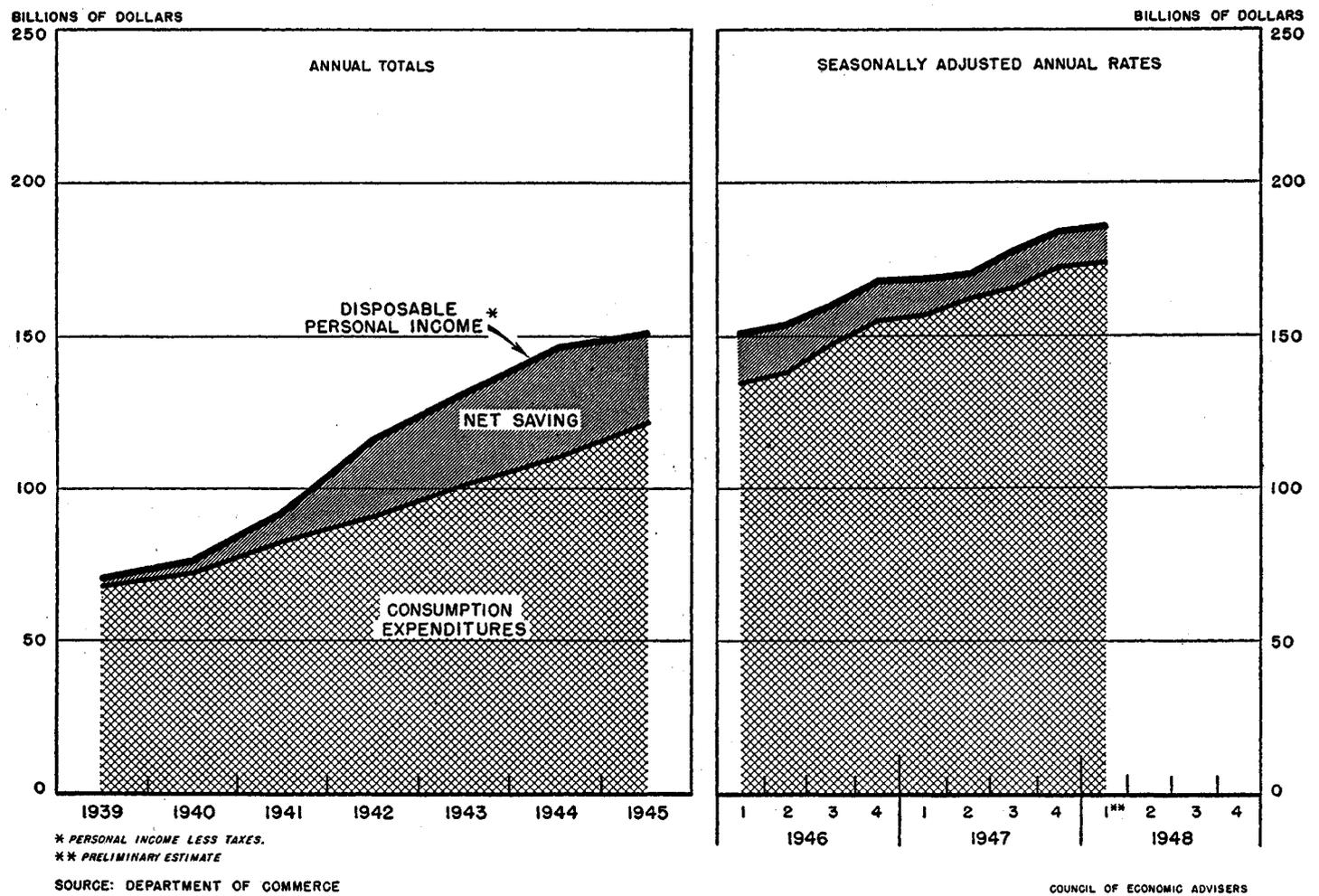
Period	Total personal income	Salaries, wages, and other labor income	Proprietors' and rental income	Dividends and interest	Social security and GI payments
1939	72.6	45.6	14.7	9.2	3.0
1944	164.9	116.2	34.4	10.7	3.6
1945	171.6	116.7	37.1	11.6	6.2
1946	177.2	110.8	41.8	13.3	11.3
1947	196.8	122.5	47.8	14.9	11.6
Seasonally adjusted annual rates					
1947: January	189.3	118.5	45.8	14.0	11.0
February	189.5	118.8	45.9	14.1	10.7
March	190.6	118.7	46.8	14.2	10.9
April	189.4	117.7	46.5	14.3	10.9
May	190.5	119.1	46.5	14.4	10.5
June	194.1	121.9	47.1	14.6	10.5
July	194.9	121.7	47.4	14.7	11.1
August	193.8	123.0	45.5	14.9	10.4
September	209.9	125.0	48.1	15.6	21.2
October	203.2	125.6	50.4	15.4	11.8
November	204.2	128.3	49.9	15.5	10.5
December	210.4	130.0	54.0	15.6	10.8
1948: January	211.4	130.1	54.5	15.7	11.1
February	207.1	128.6	51.7	15.8	11.0
March ¹	208.5				

¹ Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerce.

CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

The estimated consumer income and expenditures for the first quarter of 1948 suggest a checking of the rate of increase.



CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

[Billions of dollars]

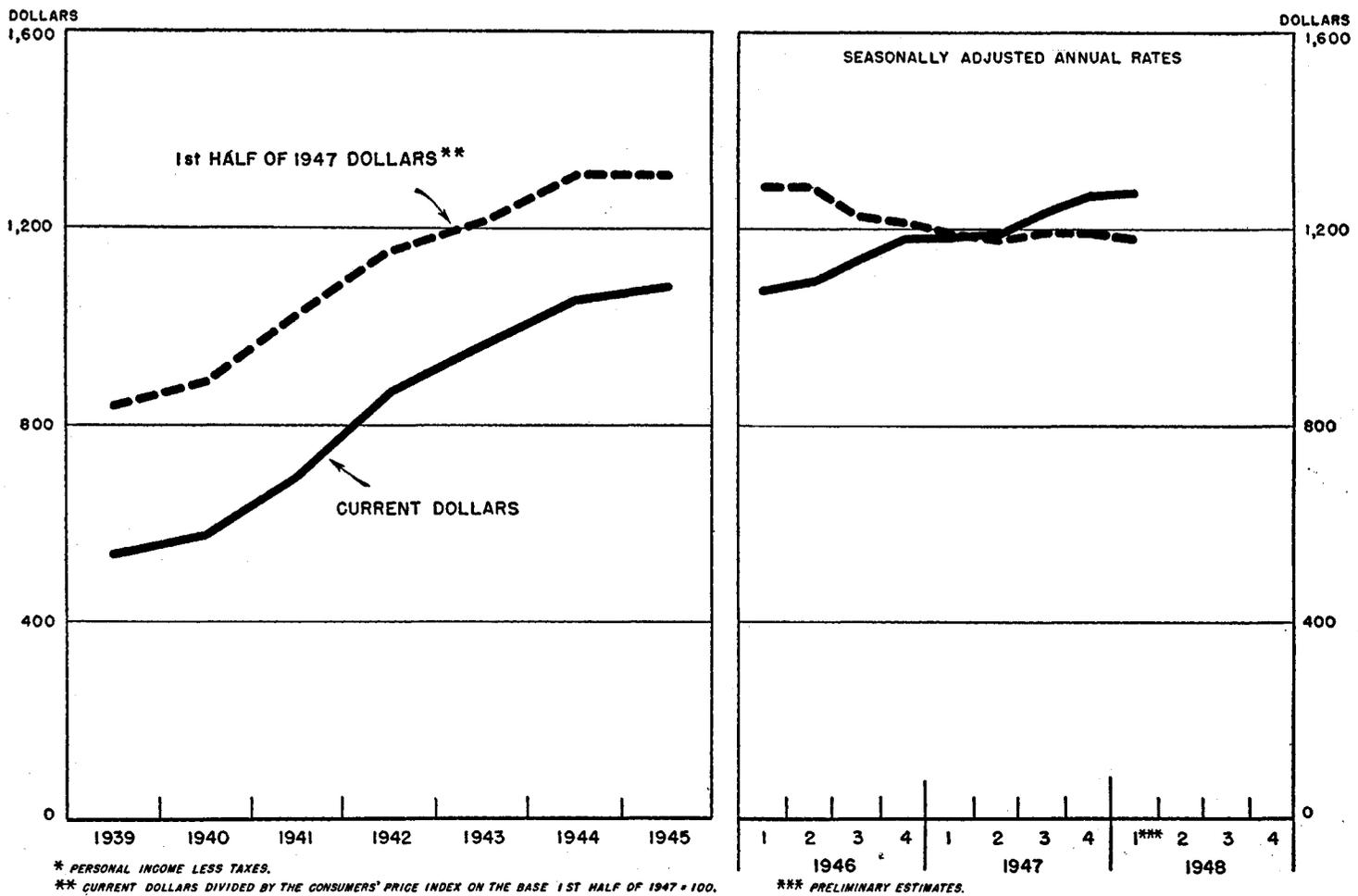
Period	Disposable personal income ¹	Less: Personal consumption expenditures	Equals: Personal saving
1939	70.2	67.5	2.7
1940	75.7	72.1	3.7
1941	92.0	82.3	9.8
1942	116.2	90.8	25.4
1943	131.6	101.6	30.0
1944	146.0	110.4	35.6
1945	150.7	121.7	29.0
1946	158.4	143.7	14.8
1947	175.3	164.4	10.9
Seasonally adjusted annual rates			
1946: First quarter	150.9	134.3	16.6
Second quarter	153.8	138.2	15.5
Third quarter	160.4	147.3	13.1
Fourth quarter	168.0	154.9	13.1
1947: First quarter	168.8	156.9	11.9
Second quarter	170.1	162.3	7.8
Third quarter	177.9	165.8	12.1
Fourth quarter	183.7	172.5	11.2
1948: First quarter ²	185.5	174.0	11.5

¹ Income less taxes.
² Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Commerce.

PER CAPITA INCOME*

An increase in prices during the first quarter more than offset the small increase in per capita income. This resulted in a drop in the real purchasing power of consumers.



PER CAPITA INCOME

Period	Per capita disposable personal income ¹		Consumers' price index, first half of 1947=100
	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	
1939	\$536	\$838	64.0
1940	574	890	64.5
1941	691	1,021	67.7
1942	863	1,151	75.0
1943	964	1,211	79.5
1944	1,057	1,308	80.8
1945	1,080	1,306	82.6
1946	1,122	1,251	89.6
1947	1,216	1,187	102.4
	Seasonally adjusted annual rates		Not adjusted for seasonal variation
1946: First quarter	1,074	1,285	83.6
1946: Second quarter	1,091	1,284	84.9
1946: Third quarter	1,133	1,225	92.5
1946: Fourth quarter	1,181	1,211	97.4
1947: First quarter	1,180	1,188	99.3
1947: Second quarter	1,184	1,177	100.6
1947: Third quarter	1,232	1,190	103.5
1947: Fourth quarter	1,266	1,191	106.3
1948: First quarter ³	1,274	1,181	107.9

¹ Income less taxes.

² Current dollars divided by the consumers' price index on the base first half of 1947=100.

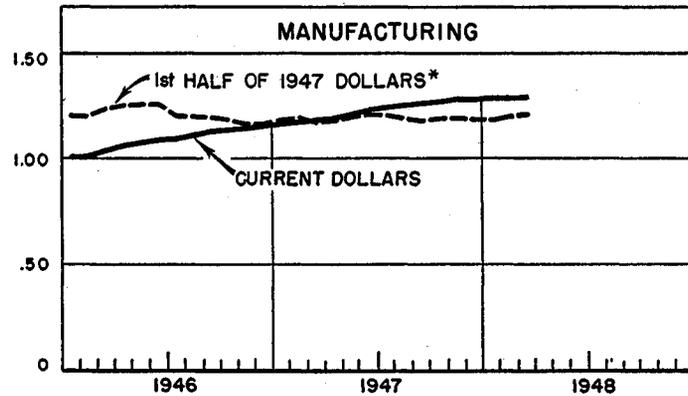
³ Preliminary estimate.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

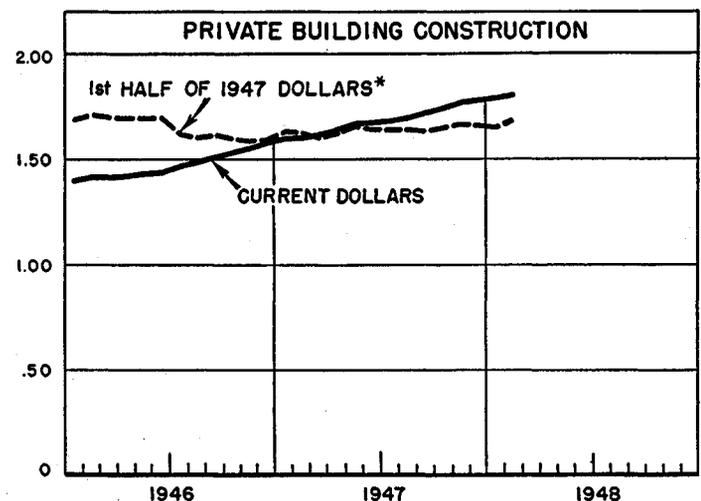
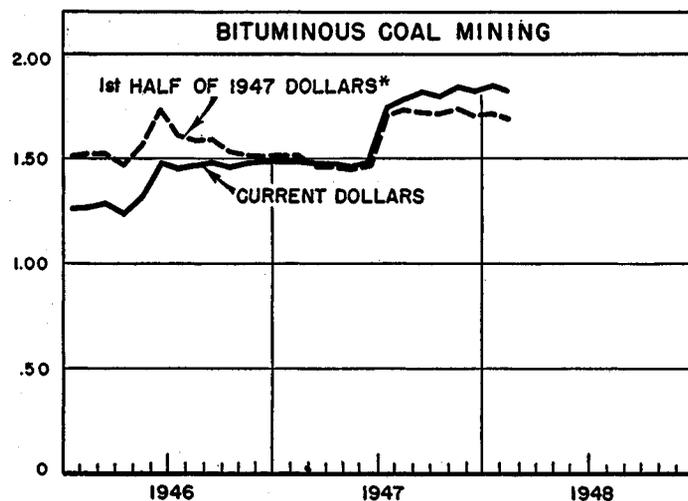
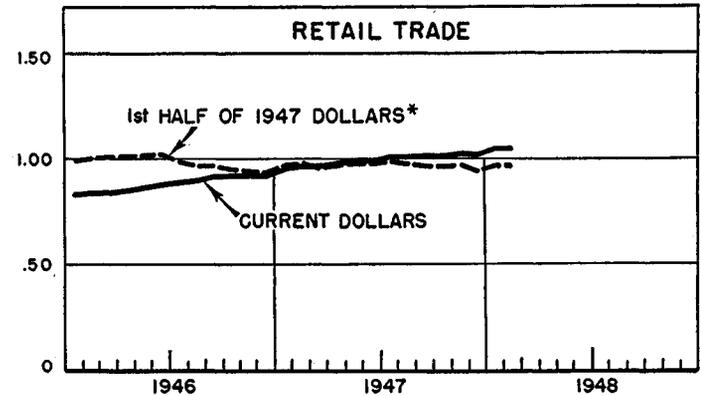
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

Hourly earnings continued to rise in most industries in early 1948. In February, earnings in bituminous coal mining were reduced by the loss of overtime pay during a shorter workweek.

DOLLARS PER HOUR



DOLLARS PER HOUR



* CURRENT DOLLARS DIVIDED BY CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX ON THE BASE 1st HALF OF 1947=100
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Period	Manufacturing		Retail trade		Bituminous coal mining		Private building construction ¹	
	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²
1939 monthly average.....	\$0. 633	\$0. 989	\$0. 536	\$0. 838	\$0. 886	\$1. 384	\$0. 932	\$1. 456
1941 monthly average.....	. 729	1. 077	. 568	. 839	. 993	1. 467	1. 010	1. 492
1944 monthly average.....	1. 019	1. 261	. 724	. 896	1. 186	1. 468	1. 319	1. 632
1945 monthly average.....	1. 023	1. 238	. 773	. 936	1. 240	1. 501	1. 379	1. 669
1946 monthly average.....	1. 084	1. 210	. 878	. 980	1. 401	1. 564	1. 478	1. 650
1947 monthly average.....	1. 221	1. 192	. 991	. 968	1. 644	1. 605	1. 676	1. 637
1947: January.....	1. 161	1. 177	. 953	. 967	1. 491	1. 512	1. 594	1. 617
February.....	1. 170	1. 187	. 957	. 971	1. 491	1. 512	1. 598	1. 621
March.....	1. 180	1. 173	. 960	. 954	1. 484	1. 475	1. 610	1. 600
April.....	1. 186	1. 180	. 974	. 969	1. 483	1. 476	1. 634	1. 626
May.....	1. 207	1. 202	. 985	. 981	1. 470	1. 464	1. 656	1. 649
June.....	1. 226	1. 213	. 996	. 985	1. 489	1. 473	1. 661	1. 643
July.....	1. 230	1. 207	1. 003	. 984	1. 740	1. 708	1. 669	1. 638
August.....	1. 236	1. 198	1. 003	. 972	1. 787	1. 732	1. 689	1. 637
September.....	1. 249	1. 185	1. 012	. 960	1. 819	1. 726	1. 718	1. 630
October.....	1. 258	1. 194	1. 013	. 961	1. 798	1. 706	1. 738	1. 649
November.....	1. 268	1. 195	1. 025	. 966	1. 851	1. 745	1. 765	1. 664
December.....	1. 278	1. 189	1. 016	. 945	1. 826	1. 699	1. 774	1. 650
1948: January.....	1. 286	1. 184	1. 044	. 961	1. 847	1. 701	1. 781	1. 640
February ³	1. 290	1. 197	1. 050	. 974	1. 826	1. 694	1. 809	1. 678
March ³	1. 293	1. 204						

¹ Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects.

² Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on the base first half of 1947=100.

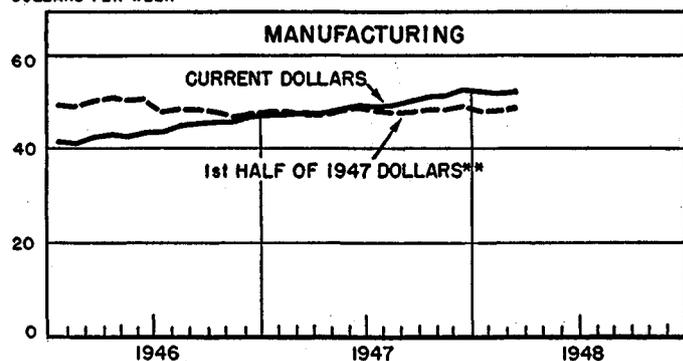
³ Preliminary.

Source: Department of Labor.

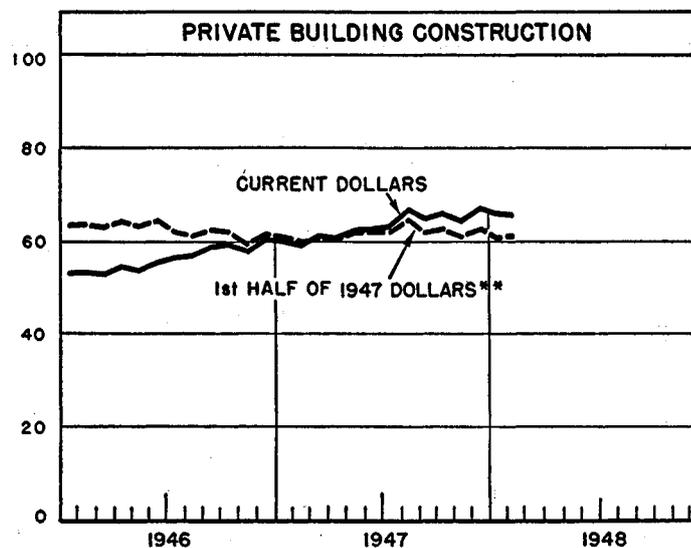
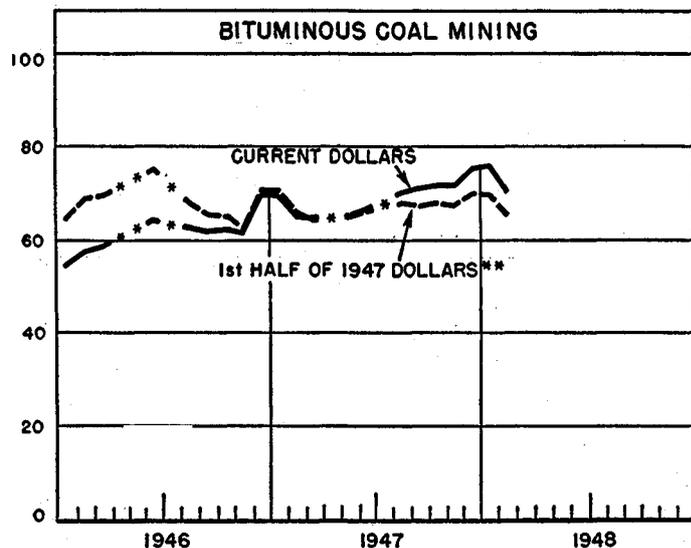
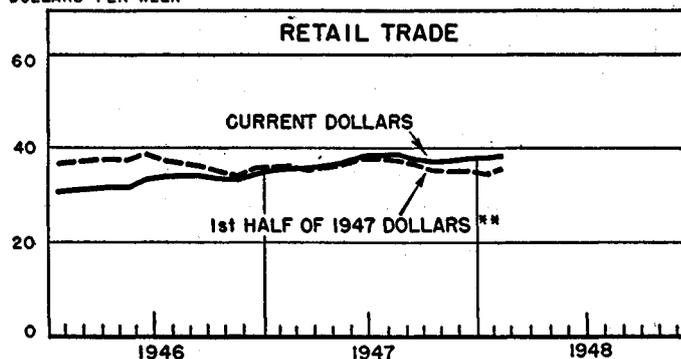
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

Earnings in bituminous coal mining dropped in February because of the shorter workweek. Preliminary March data indicate that earnings in manufacturing were still slightly below the all-time high reached in December.

DOLLARS PER WEEK



DOLLARS PER WEEK



* EARNINGS DATA DISTORTED DURING THESE MONTHS BECAUSE OF WORK STOPPAGES OR VACATIONS. SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

** CURRENT DOLLARS DIVIDED BY CONSUMER'S PRICE INDEX ON BASE 1ST HALF OF 1947 = 100 COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Period	Manufacturing		Retail trade		Bituminous coal mining		Private building construction ¹	
	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²	Current dollars	First half of 1947 dollars ²
1939 monthly average.....	\$23.86	\$37.28	\$21.17	\$33.08	\$23.88	\$37.31	\$30.39	\$47.48
1941 monthly average.....	29.58	43.69	21.94	32.40	30.86	45.58	35.14	51.91
1944 monthly average.....	46.08	57.03	26.58	32.90	51.27	63.45	52.18	64.58
1945 monthly average.....	44.39	53.74	28.31	34.27	52.25	63.26	53.73	65.05
1946 monthly average.....	43.74	48.82	32.55	36.33	58.03	64.77	56.24	62.77
1947 monthly average.....	49.25	48.10	36.70	35.84	66.82	65.25	63.28	61.80
1947: January.....	47.10	47.77	35.02	35.52	69.54	70.53	59.97	60.82
February.....	47.29	47.96	35.27	35.77	65.30	66.23	58.92	59.76
March.....	47.69	47.41	35.31	35.10	64.90	64.51	61.23	60.86
April.....	47.50	47.26	35.93	35.75	54.14	53.87	60.53	60.23
May.....	48.44	48.25	36.50	36.35	65.51	65.25	62.38	62.13
June.....	49.33	48.79	37.82	37.41	67.09	66.36	62.68	62.00
July.....	48.98	48.07	37.99	37.28	54.87	53.85	63.30	62.12
August.....	49.17	47.65	38.14	36.96	70.23	68.05	66.97	64.89
September.....	50.47	47.88	37.06	35.16	71.19	67.54	65.22	61.88
October.....	51.05	48.43	36.74	34.86	71.91	68.23	66.14	62.75
November.....	51.29	48.34	37.14	35.00	71.77	67.64	64.55	60.84
December.....	52.69	49.01	37.51	34.89	75.22	69.97	67.31	62.61
1948: January.....	52.14	48.01	37.62	34.64	75.78	69.78	66.28	61.03
February ³	51.83	48.08	38.33	35.56	70.54	65.44	66.22	61.43
March ³	52.25	48.65						

¹ Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects.

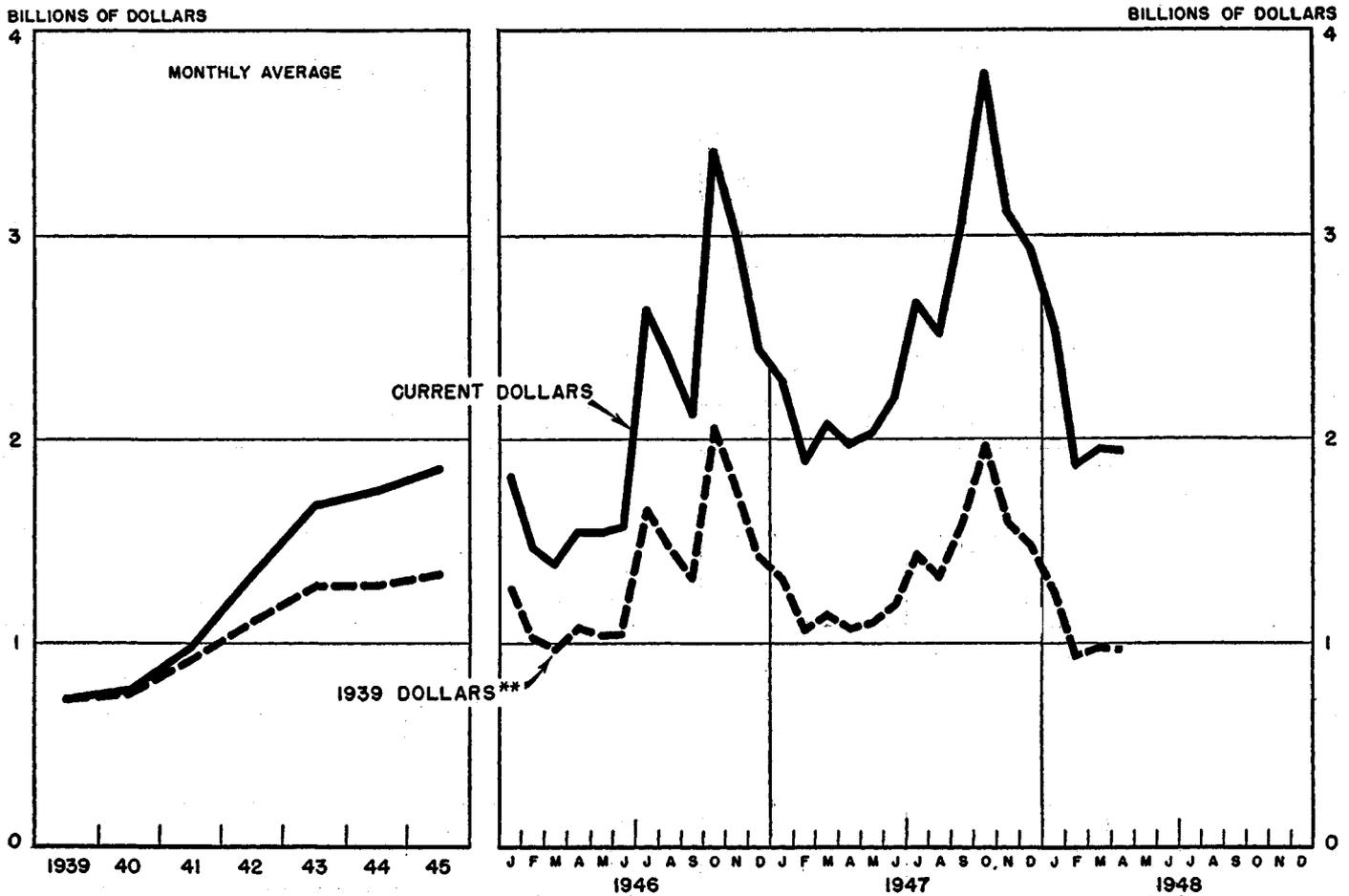
² Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on the base first half of 1947 = 100.

³ Preliminary.

Source: Department of Labor.

FARM INCOME*

The purchasing power of farm income in March and April continued considerably below last year's level. Dollar income was slightly below a year ago while prices paid were substantially higher.



* CASH RECEIPTS FROM MARKETING AND GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS.

** FARM INCOME IN CURRENT DOLLARS DIVIDED BY THE INDEX OF PRICES PAID, INTEREST, AND TAXES ON THE BASE 1939=100.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

FARM INCOME

Period	Farm income (millions of current dollars) ¹	Prices paid, interest, and taxes, 1939=100 ²	Farm income, (millions of 1939 dollars) ³
1939 monthly average.....	723	100.0	723
1940 monthly average.....	761	100.8	755
1941 monthly average.....	981	106.5	921
1942 monthly average.....	1,340	121.0	1,107
1943 monthly average.....	1,678	130.6	1,285
1944 monthly average.....	1,753	136.3	1,286
1945 monthly average.....	1,857	138.7	1,339
1946 monthly average.....	2,110	155.6	1,356
1947 monthly average.....	2,543	186.3	1,365
1947: January.....	2,284	173.4	1,317
February.....	1,897	178.2	1,065
March.....	2,076	182.3	1,139
April.....	1,974	184.7	1,069
May.....	2,026	183.9	1,102
June.....	2,211	185.5	1,192
July.....	2,662	185.5	1,435
August.....	2,517	188.7	1,334
September.....	3,060	191.9	1,595
October.....	3,773	192.7	1,958
November.....	3,109	194.4	1,599
December.....	2,927	197.6	1,481
1948: January.....	2,534	202.4	1,252
February.....	1,866	200.0	933
March ⁴	1,961	199.2	984
April ⁴	1,951	200.8	972

¹ Includes cash farm income from marketings and Government payments.

² Converted from the reported base, 1910-14=100, to the base 1939=100.

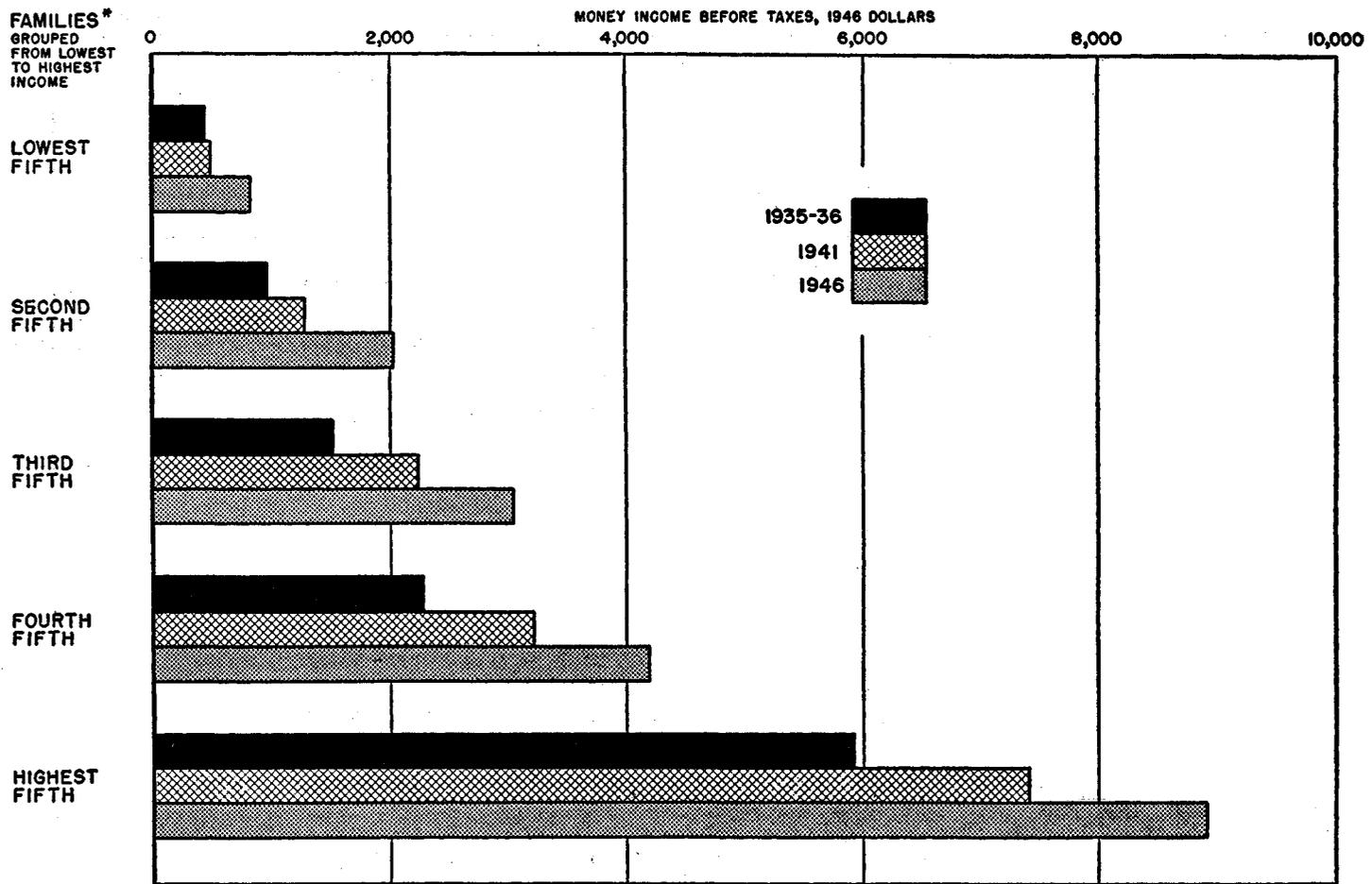
³ Farm income in current dollars divided by prices paid by farmers, interest, and taxes, 1939=100.

⁴ Preliminary.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

All groups received more income in 1946 than before the war.
Greatest relative increases were in the lower and middle groups.



* INCLUDES SINGLE INDIVIDUALS.

SOURCE: THE ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT, JANUARY 1948.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

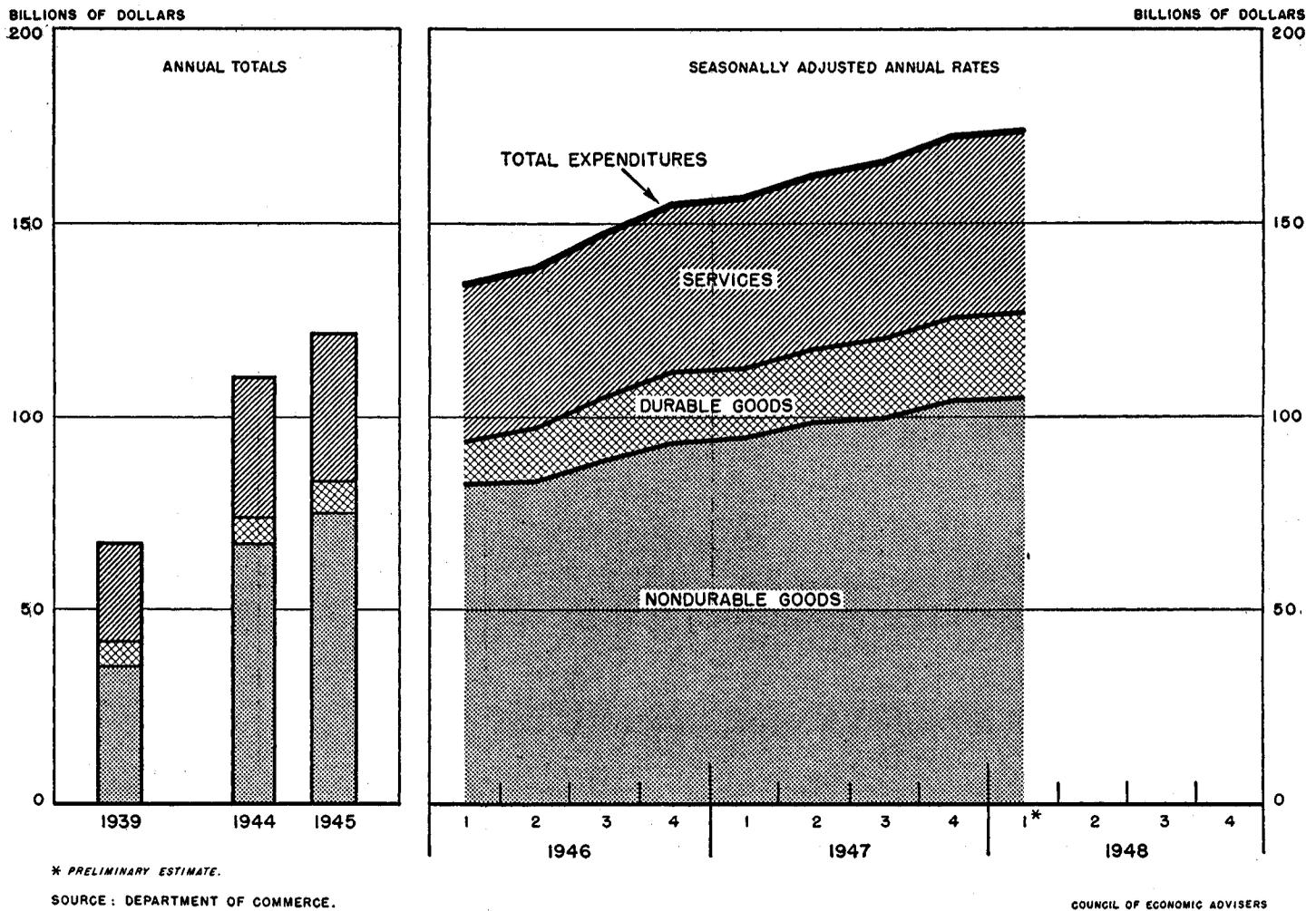
Families grouped from lowest to highest income ¹	Money income before taxes, 1946 dollars			Percent increase	
	1935-36	1941	1946	1935-36 to 1946	1941 to 1946
Lowest fifth.....	\$446	\$498	\$835	87	68
Second fifth.....	969	1,275	2,023	109	59
Third fifth.....	1,515	2,243	3,050	101	36
Fourth fifth.....	2,284	3,225	4,201	84	30
Highest fifth.....	5,928	7,418	8,921	50	20
Average for all families ¹	2,229	2,932	3,806	71	30

¹ Includes single individuals.

Source: The Economic Report of the President, January 1948, page 18.

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

Showed little change in the first quarter, according to preliminary estimates.



PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total	Nondurable goods	Durable goods	Services
1939.....	67.5	35.3	6.7	25.5
1944.....	110.4	67.2	6.8	36.5
1945.....	121.7	75.3	8.0	38.4
1946.....	143.7	87.1	14.9	41.7
1947.....	164.4	99.3	19.8	45.3
Seasonally adjusted annual rates				
1946: First quarter.....	134.3	82.6	11.4	40.4
Second quarter.....	138.2	83.2	13.9	41.2
Third quarter.....	147.3	88.9	16.2	42.1
Fourth quarter.....	154.9	93.6	18.2	43.1
1947: First quarter.....	156.9	94.7	18.2	44.0
Second quarter.....	162.3	98.4	19.3	44.6
Third quarter.....	165.8	99.9	20.2	45.7
Fourth quarter.....	172.5	104.2	21.3	47.0
1948: First quarter ¹	174.0	105.0	21.5	47.5

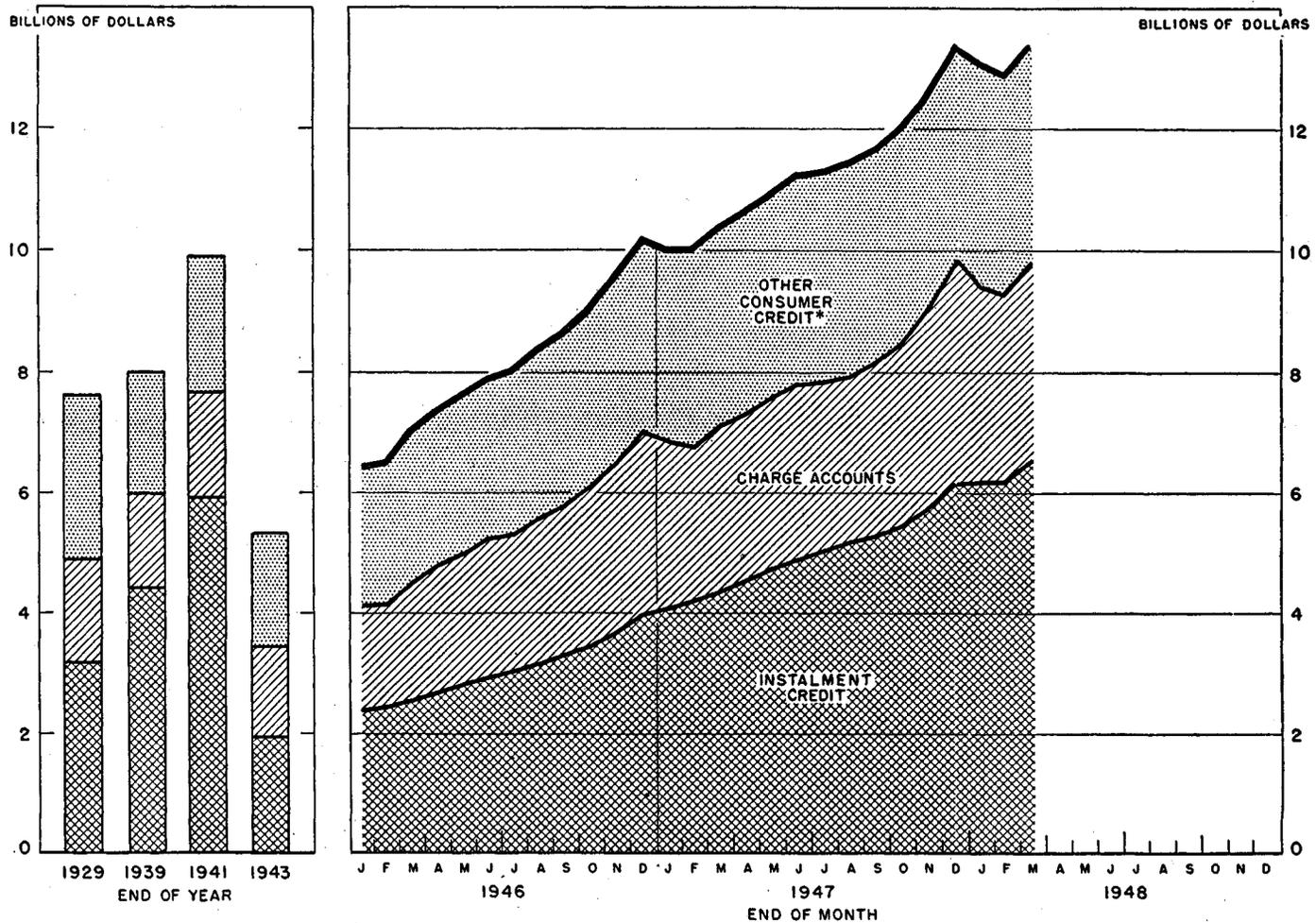
¹ Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

CONSUMER CREDIT

In March total consumer credit regained the December peak, with the drop in charge accounts compensated by a like rise in instalment credit.



SOURCE: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

* SINGLE PAYMENT LOANS AND SERVICE CREDIT

Council of Economic Advisers

CONSUMER CREDIT ESTIMATED AMOUNTS OUTSTANDING [Billions of dollars]

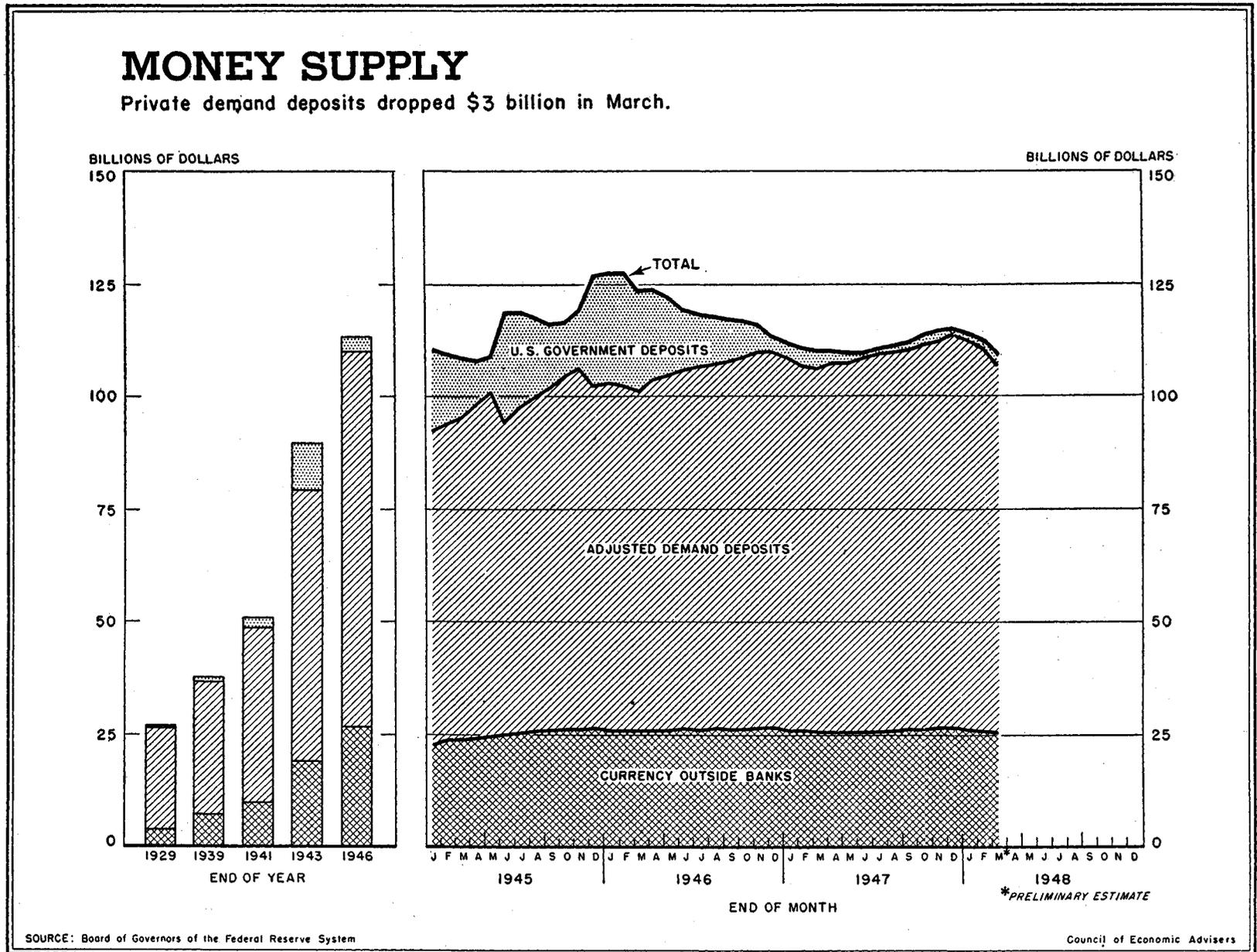
End of period	Total consumer credit	Instalment credit ¹	Charge accounts	Other consumer credit ²
1929	7.6	3.2	1.7	2.7
1939	8.0	4.4	1.5	2.0
1941	9.9	5.9	1.8	2.2
1943	5.3	2.0	1.5	1.9
1945	6.6	2.4	2.0	2.3
1946	10.2	4.0	3.1	3.1
1947	13.4	6.2	3.6	3.6
1947: January	10.0	4.0	2.8	3.2
February	10.0	4.2	2.6	3.3
March	10.4	4.3	2.8	3.3
April	10.6	4.5	2.8	3.3
May	10.9	4.7	2.8	3.4
June	11.2	4.9	2.9	3.4
July	11.3	5.0	2.8	3.5
August	11.4	5.2	2.8	3.5
September	11.7	5.3	2.9	3.5
October	12.1	5.5	3.0	3.6
November	12.6	5.7	3.3	3.6
December	13.4	6.2	3.6	3.6
1948: January	13.0	6.2	3.2	3.6
February	12.9	6.2	3.1	3.6
March	13.4	6.5	3.3	3.6

¹ Includes automobile and other sale credit and repair and modernization loans insured by Federal Housing Administration.

² Includes single-payment loans of commercial banks and pawnbrokers and service credit.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Section F: MONEY, BANKING, AND FEDERAL FINANCE



MONEY SUPPLY

[Billions of dollars]

End of period	Total money supply	Currency outside banks	Adjusted demand deposits ¹	U. S. Government deposits ²
1929	26.5	3.6	22.8	0.2
1939	37.0	6.4	29.8	.8
1941	50.5	9.6	39.0	1.9
1943	90.1	18.8	60.8	10.4
1945	126.9	26.5	75.9	24.6
1946	113.1	26.7	83.3	3.1
1947	115.1	26.5	87.2	1.4
1947: January	111.7	26.1	82.5	3.1
February	110.5	26.2	80.6	3.7
March	110.2	26.1	80.4	3.7
April	110.1	26.1	81.3	2.7
May	109.8	26.1	81.5	2.2
June	109.8	26.3	82.1	1.4
July	110.6	26.0	83.2	1.4
August	111.3	26.2	83.4	1.7
September	112.5	26.4	84.2	1.9
October	113.5	26.3	85.4	1.8
November	114.4	26.6	85.9	1.9
December	115.1	26.5	87.2	1.4
1948: January	113.7	25.8	86.6	1.4
February	112.2	25.7	84.6	1.8
March ³	109.6	25.6	81.6	2.4

¹ Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U. S. Government, less cash items in process of collection.

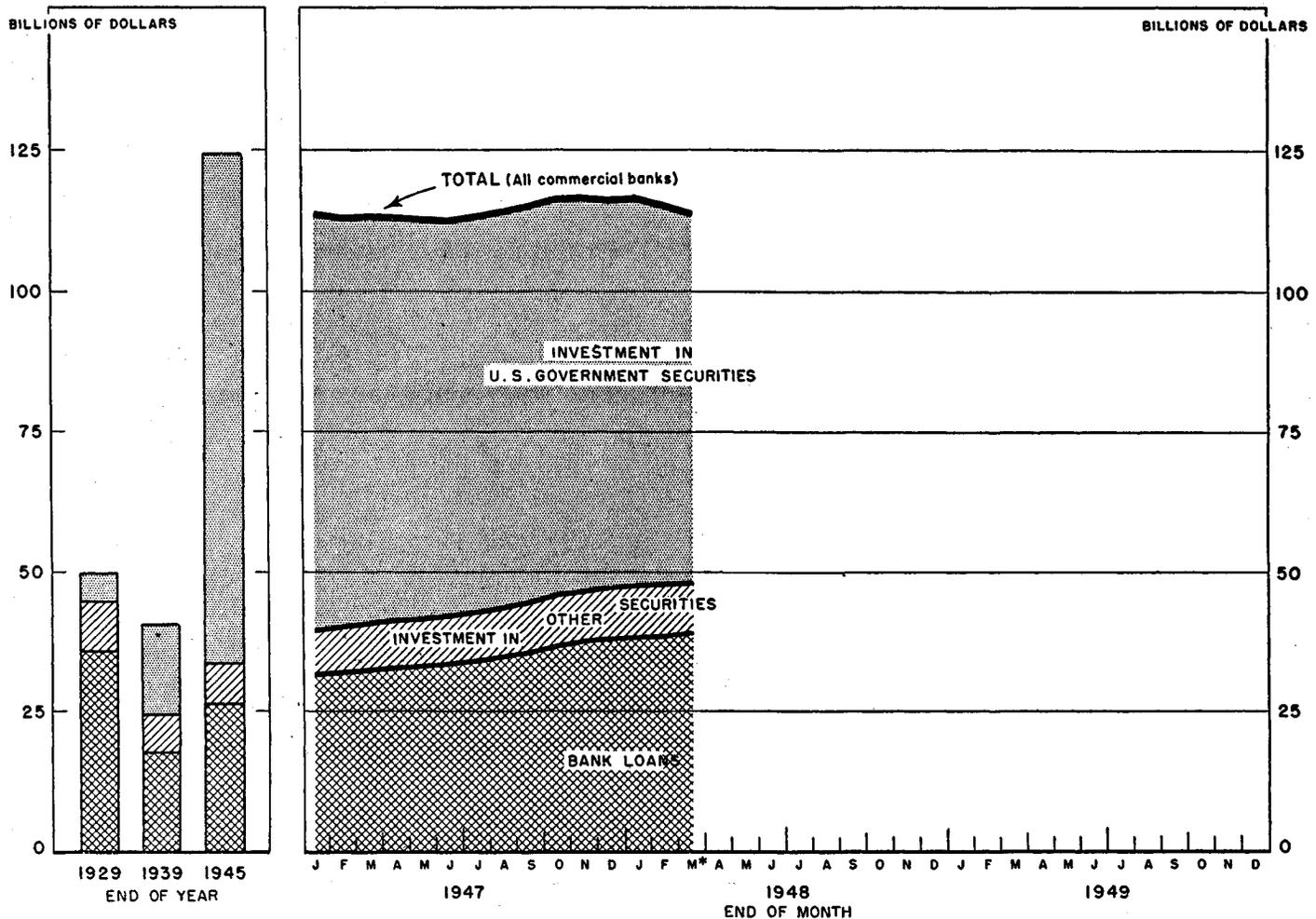
² Beginning December 1938, includes U. S. Treasurer's time deposits, open account.

³ Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

Commercial bank loans increased a little in March. Investments in U.S. securities, however, declined more than \$2 billion.



SOURCE: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

* PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE

Council of Economic Advisers

BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

ALL COMMERCIAL BANKS

[Billions of dollars]

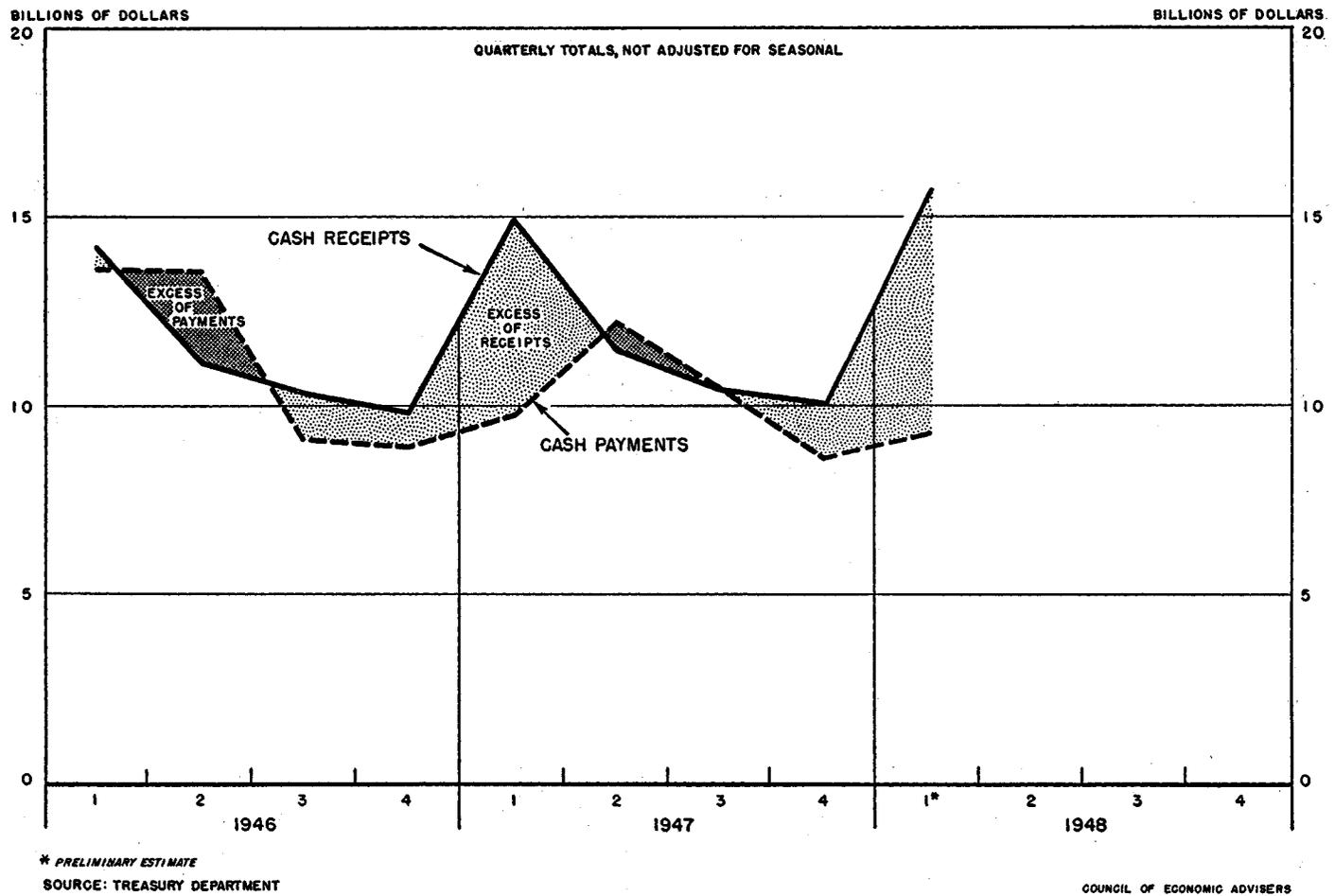
End of period	Total loans and investments	Bank loans	Investments		
			Total	U. S. Government securities	Other securities
1929.....	49.5	36.0	13.5	4.8	8.7
1939.....	40.7	17.2	23.4	16.3	7.1
1945.....	124.0	26.1	97.9	90.6	7.3
1946.....	114.0	31.1	82.9	74.8	8.1
1947.....	116.4	38.1	78.3	69.3	9.0
1947: January.....	113.8	31.4	82.4	74.4	8.0
February.....	113.0	31.9	81.1	73.1	8.0
March.....	113.1	32.3	80.8	72.5	8.3
April.....	113.2	32.8	80.4	72.0	8.4
May.....	112.9	33.1	79.8	71.5	8.3
June.....	112.8	33.7	79.1	70.5	8.5
July.....	113.4	34.0	79.4	70.7	8.7
August.....	114.0	34.9	79.1	70.3	8.8
September.....	115.3	35.6	79.7	70.8	8.9
October.....	116.4	36.9	79.5	70.5	9.0
November.....	116.7	37.7	79.0	70.1	8.9
December.....	116.4	38.1	78.3	69.3	9.0
1948: January.....	116.6	38.2	78.4	69.4	9.0
February.....	115.5	38.7	76.9	67.9	9.0
March ¹	113.6	38.9	74.7	65.5	9.3

¹ Preliminary estimate.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The excess of Federal cash receipts over cash payments in the first quarter 1948 was \$6.4 billion as compared with \$5.2 billion in the first quarter 1947.



FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

[Millions of dollars]

Calendar year and quarter	Cash receipts	Cash payments	Excess of receipts (+) or payments (-)
1946: First quarter	14,153	13,648	+505
Second quarter	11,098	13,599	-2,501
Third quarter	10,377	9,106	+1,271
Fourth quarter	9,870	8,909	+961
1947: First quarter	14,962	9,772	+5,190
Second quarter	11,430	12,198	-768
Third quarter	10,470	10,503	-33
Fourth quarter	10,011	8,666	+1,345
1948: First quarter ¹	15,732	9,322	+6,410

¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Treasury Department.