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JOINT RESOLUTION [S. J. Res. 55]

To print the monthly publication entitled "Economic Indicators"

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Joint Committee on the Economic Report be authorized to issue a monthly publication entitled "Economic Indicators," and that a sufficient quantity be printed to furnish one copy to each Member of Congress; the Secretary and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate; the Clerk, Sergeant at Arms, and Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives; two copies to the libraries of the Senate and House, and the Congressional Library; seven hundred copies to the Joint Committee on the Economic Report; and the required number of copies to the Superintendent of Documents for distribution to depository libraries; and that the Superintendent of Documents be authorized to have copies printed for sale to the public.

Approved June 23, 1949.

Charts drawn by Graphics Unit, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce

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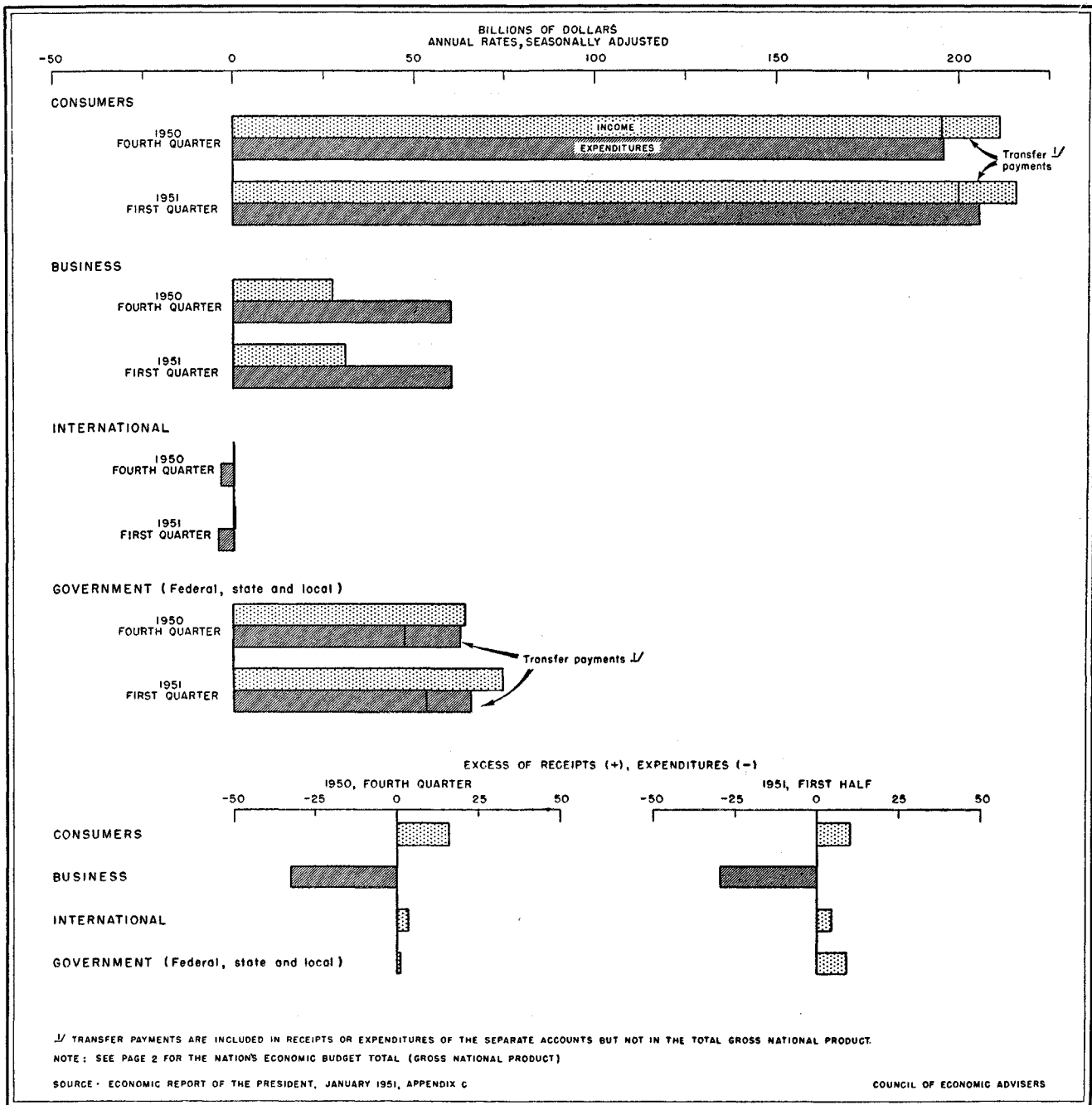
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THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF THE ECONOMY

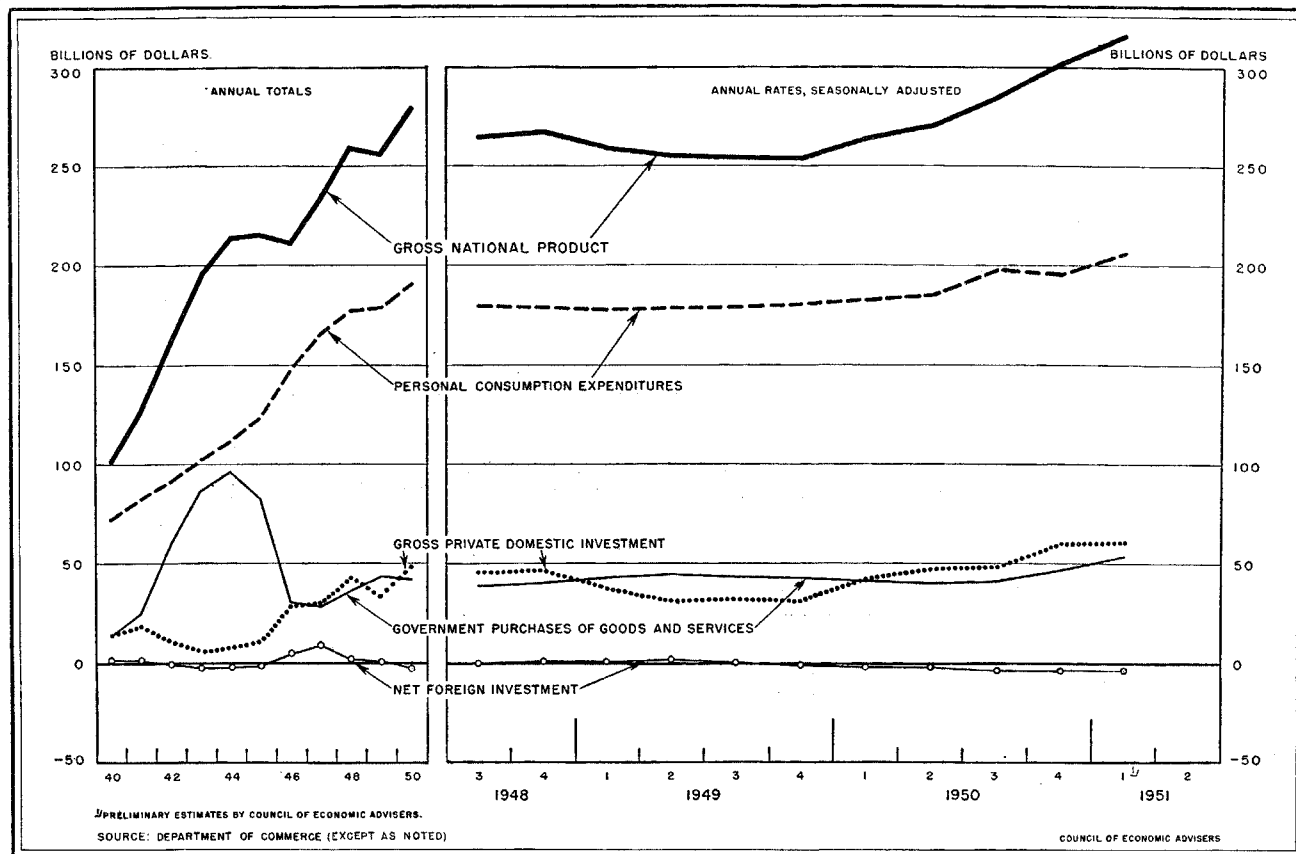
THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

The Government (Federal, State, and local) cash surplus rose to \$9 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the first quarter of 1951, \$8 billion above the previous quarter. Excess of business investment was very high, at a rate of about \$32 billion. Personal saving declined.



GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

The gross national product rose \$16 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate), or about 5 percent, in the first quarter. About one-fourth of this rise reflected more real output. The most substantial increases occurred in goods and services produced for Government purchase, primarily those for defense items, and in personal consumption expenditures.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total gross national product	Personal consumption expenditures	Gross private domestic investment	Net foreign investment	Government purchases of goods and services		
					Total	National defense ¹	Other ²
1939.....	91.3	67.5	9.9	0.9	13.1	1.3	11.8
1944.....	213.7	111.6	7.7	-2.1	96.5	88.6	7.9
1946.....	211.1	146.9	28.7	4.6	30.9	21.2	9.7
1947.....	233.3	165.6	30.2	8.9	28.6	12.2	16.4
1948.....	259.1	177.4	43.1	1.9	36.6	11.6	25.0
1949.....	255.6	178.8	33.0	.4	43.3	13.5	29.8
1950.....	279.8	190.8	49.4	-2.5	42.1	14.8	27.3
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted							
1949: First quarter.....	258.8	177.4	37.5	1.0	42.9	13.5	29.4
Second quarter.....	255.2	178.4	31.3	1.3	44.3	13.9	30.4
Third quarter.....	254.4	179.0	32.1	.1	43.2	13.5	29.7
Fourth quarter.....	253.8	180.6	31.2	-.7	42.8	13.3	29.5
1950: First quarter.....	263.3	182.6	41.8	-1.7	40.5	12.5	28.0
Second quarter.....	271.6	185.8	47.7	-1.7	39.9	12.4	27.5
Third quarter.....	283.9	198.9	47.8	-3.3	40.4	14.2	26.2
Fourth quarter.....	300.3	195.8	60.2	-3.4	47.6	20.0	27.6
1951: First quarter ³	316.0	206.0	60.5	-4.0	53.5	25.5	28.0

¹ Based on Treasury *Bulletin* break-down of Federal budgetary expenditures adjusted to the concept of purchases of goods and services; includes "national defense and related activities," Atomic Energy, and Mutual Defense Assistance.

² Residual; expenditures by the Federal Government for other than "national defense" and total expenditures by State and local governments.

³ Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers.

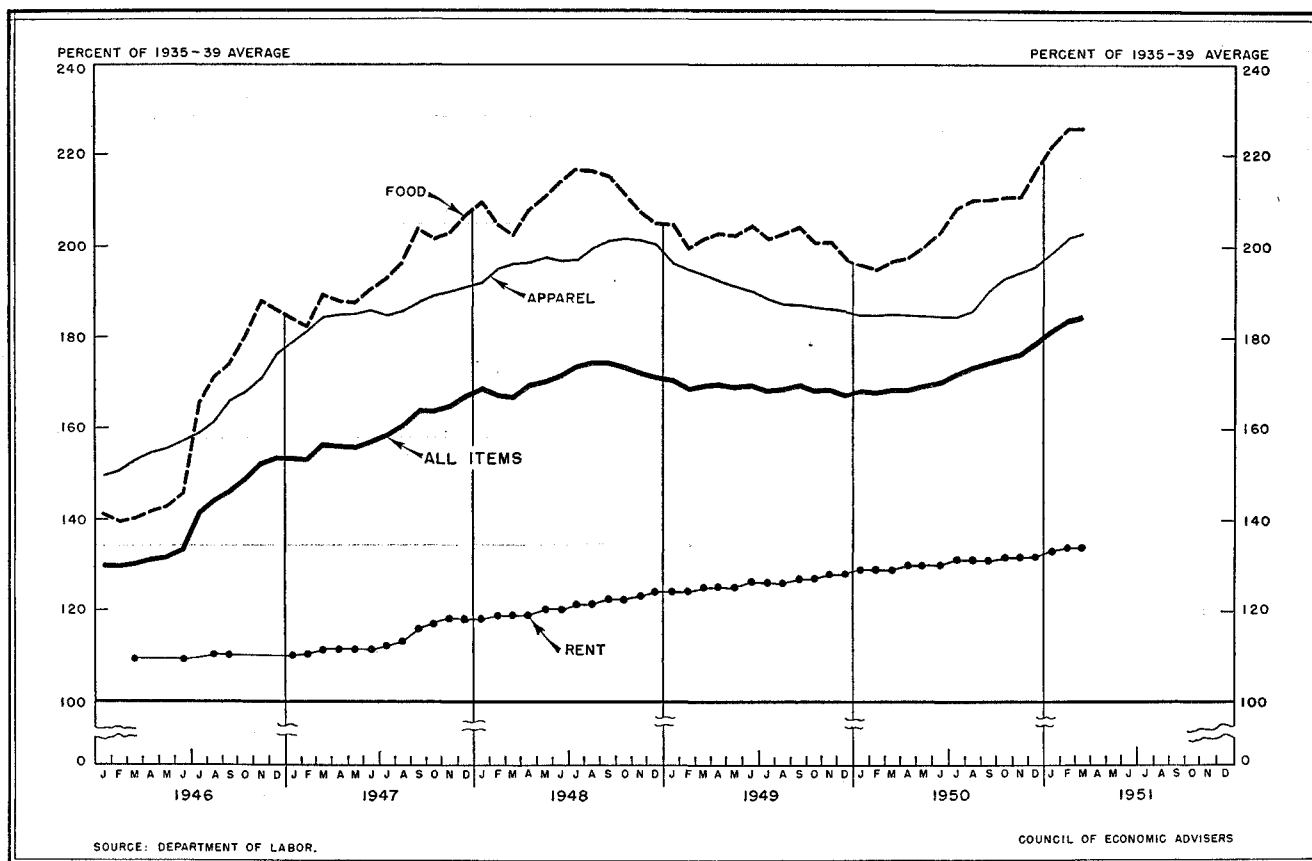
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

PRICES

CONSUMERS' PRICES

Slowing down to less than a third of their rate of climb in the three preceding months, consumers' prices rose 0.4 percent from February 15 to March 15, with across-the-board increases. Preliminary reports indicate a moderate decline of retail food prices in the second half of March.



[1935-39=100]

Period	All items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, electricity, and refrigeration	Housefurnishings	Miscellaneous
1939 monthly average.....	99.4	95.2	100.5	104.3	99.0	101.3	100.7
1943 monthly average.....	123.7	138.0	129.7	108.7	107.7	125.6	115.8
1944 monthly average.....	125.7	136.1	138.8	109.1	109.8	136.4	121.3
1945 monthly average.....	128.6	139.1	145.9	109.5	110.3	145.8	124.1
1946 monthly average.....	139.5	159.6	160.2	110.1	112.4	159.2	128.8
1947 monthly average.....	159.6	193.8	185.8	113.6	121.1	184.4	139.9
1948 monthly average.....	171.9	210.2	198.0	121.2	133.9	195.8	149.9
1949 monthly average.....	170.2	201.9	190.1	126.4	137.5	189.0	154.6
1950 monthly average.....	171.9	204.4	187.7	131.0	140.6	190.2	156.5
1950: March 15.....	168.4	196.6	185.1	129.8	140.3	185.3	155.0
April 15.....	168.5	197.3	184.9	130.1	140.3	185.4	154.7
May 15.....	169.3	199.8	184.7	130.6	138.8	185.0	155.1
June 15.....	170.2	203.1	184.6	130.9	139.1	184.8	154.6
July 15.....	172.0	208.2	184.5	131.3	139.4	186.1	155.2
August 15.....	173.4	209.9	185.7	131.6	140.2	189.1	156.8
September 15.....	174.6	210.0	189.8	131.8	141.2	194.2	157.8
October 15.....	175.6	210.6	193.0	132.0	142.0	198.7	158.3
November 15.....	176.4	210.8	194.3	132.5	142.5	201.1	159.2
December 15.....	178.8	216.3	195.5	132.9	142.8	203.2	160.6
1951: January 15.....	181.5	221.9	198.5	133.2	143.3	207.4	162.1
February 15.....	183.8	226.0	202.0	134.0	143.9	209.7	163.2
March 15.....	184.5	226.2	203.1	134.7	144.2	210.7	164.3

¹ A special survey indicates that food prices fell 0.4 percent between March 15 and the end of the month.

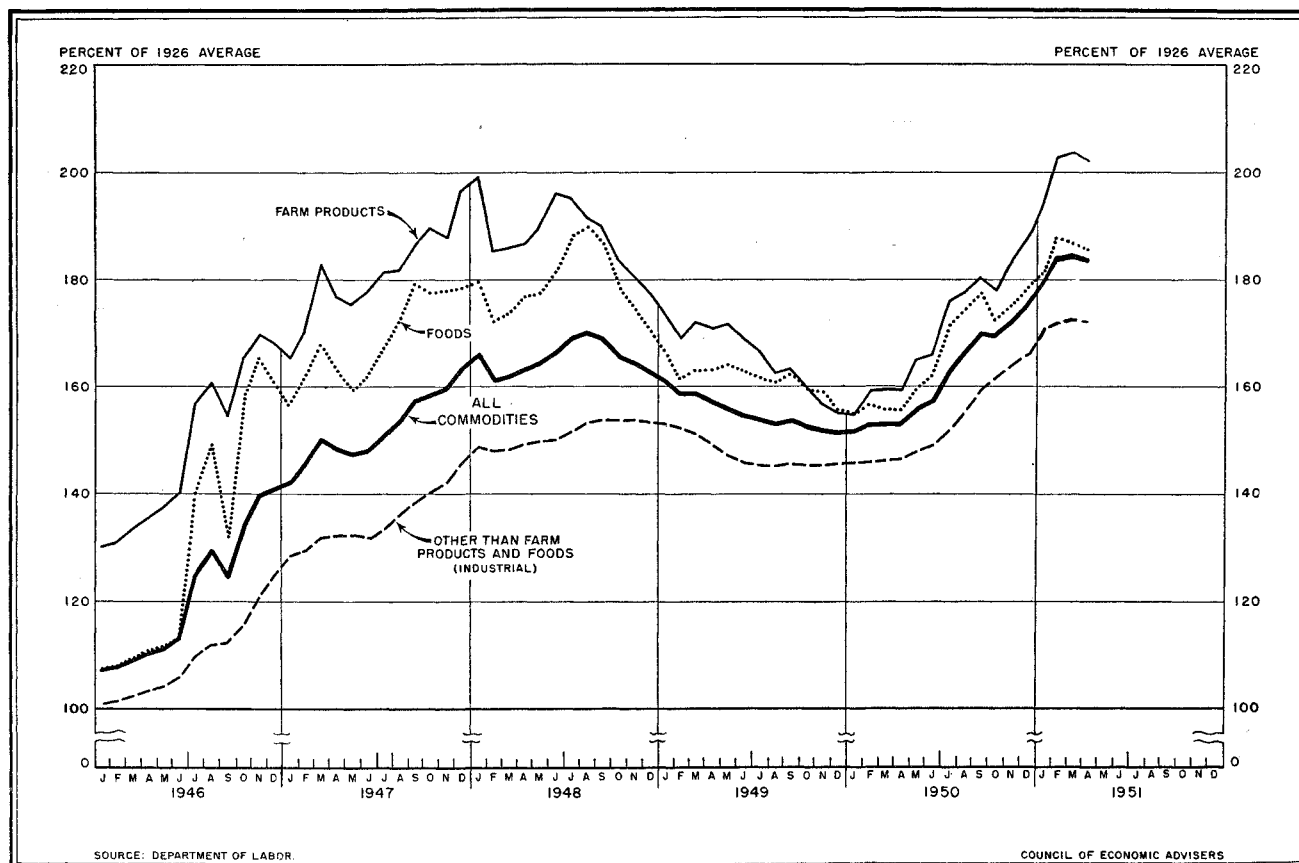
NOTE.—Prices are for moderate-income families in large cities.

Source: Department of Labor.

The index has been revised, beginning with January 1940, to correct the downward bias resulting from the failure to take account of the differentials in rent between newly built housing and comparable existing dwellings. Certain changes, starting with January 1950, in commodity coverage and weighting were linked into the index providing an improved and consistent series.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Continuing the plateau reached in mid-February, wholesale prices in April were 0.3 percent below their average March level, mainly because of small declines in farm products and foods.



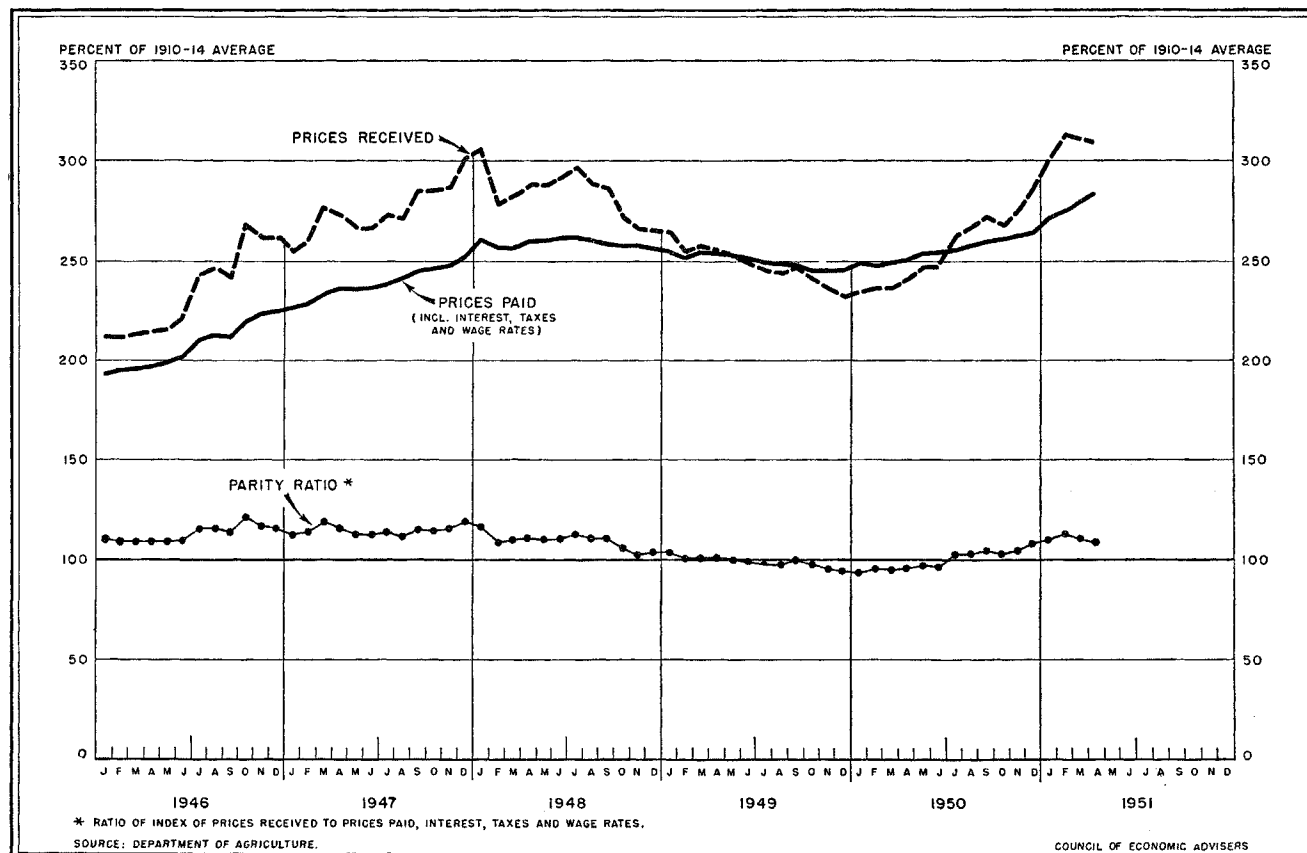
[1926=100]

Period	All commodities	Farm products	Foods	Other than farm products and foods
1942 monthly average.....	98.8	105.9	99.6	95.5
1946 monthly average.....	121.1	148.9	130.7	109.5
1947 monthly average.....	152.1	181.2	168.7	135.2
1948 monthly average.....	165.1	188.3	179.1	151.0
1949 monthly average.....	155.0	165.5	161.4	147.3
1950 monthly average.....	161.5	170.4	166.1	153.2
1950: March.....	152.7	159.4	155.5	146.1
April.....	152.9	159.3	155.3	146.4
May.....	155.9	164.7	159.9	147.6
June.....	157.3	165.9	162.1	148.8
July.....	162.9	176.0	171.4	151.5
August.....	166.4	177.6	174.6	155.5
September.....	169.5	180.4	177.2	159.2
October.....	169.1	177.8	172.5	161.5
November.....	171.7	183.7	175.2	163.7
December.....	175.3	187.4	179.0	166.6
1951: January.....	180.1	194.2	182.2	170.3
February.....	183.6	202.6	187.6	171.8
March.....	184.0	203.8	186.6	172.4
April ¹	183.4	202.0	185.3	172.2
Week ended:				
1951: April 3.....	183.3	201.8	186.1	172.1
10.....	183.0	201.3	185.7	171.9
17.....	183.1	201.2	186.8	171.8
24.....	183.6	202.4	188.0	171.7
May 1.....	183.4	201.1	188.6	171.6

¹ Estimates based on change in weekly data.
Source: Department of Labor.

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

The index of prices at the farm dropped 2 points in April, after a similar drop in March. The April decline was due mainly to lower prices of truck crops, dairy products, most fruits, eggs, and some meat animals. These declines more than offset increased prices of cotton, chickens, and a few other farm products. Prices paid by farmers continued to rise.



[1910-14=100]

Period	Prices received by farmers	Prices paid by farmers (including interest, taxes, and wage rates)	Parity ratio ¹
1939 monthly average.....	95	123	77
1942 monthly average.....	158	152	104
1944 monthly average.....	² 196	182	108
1946 monthly average.....	² 234	207	113
1947 monthly average.....	275	239	115
1948 monthly average.....	285	259	110
1949 monthly average.....	249	250	100
1950 monthly average.....	256	255	100
1950: March 15.....	237	249	95
April 15.....	241	250	96
May 15.....	247	254	97
June 15.....	247	255	97
July 15.....	263	256	103
August 15.....	267	258	103
September 15.....	272	260	105
October 15.....	268	261	103
November 15.....	276	263	105
December 15.....	286	265	108
1951: January 15.....	300	272	110
February 15.....	313	276	113
March 15.....	311	280	111
April 15.....	309	283	109

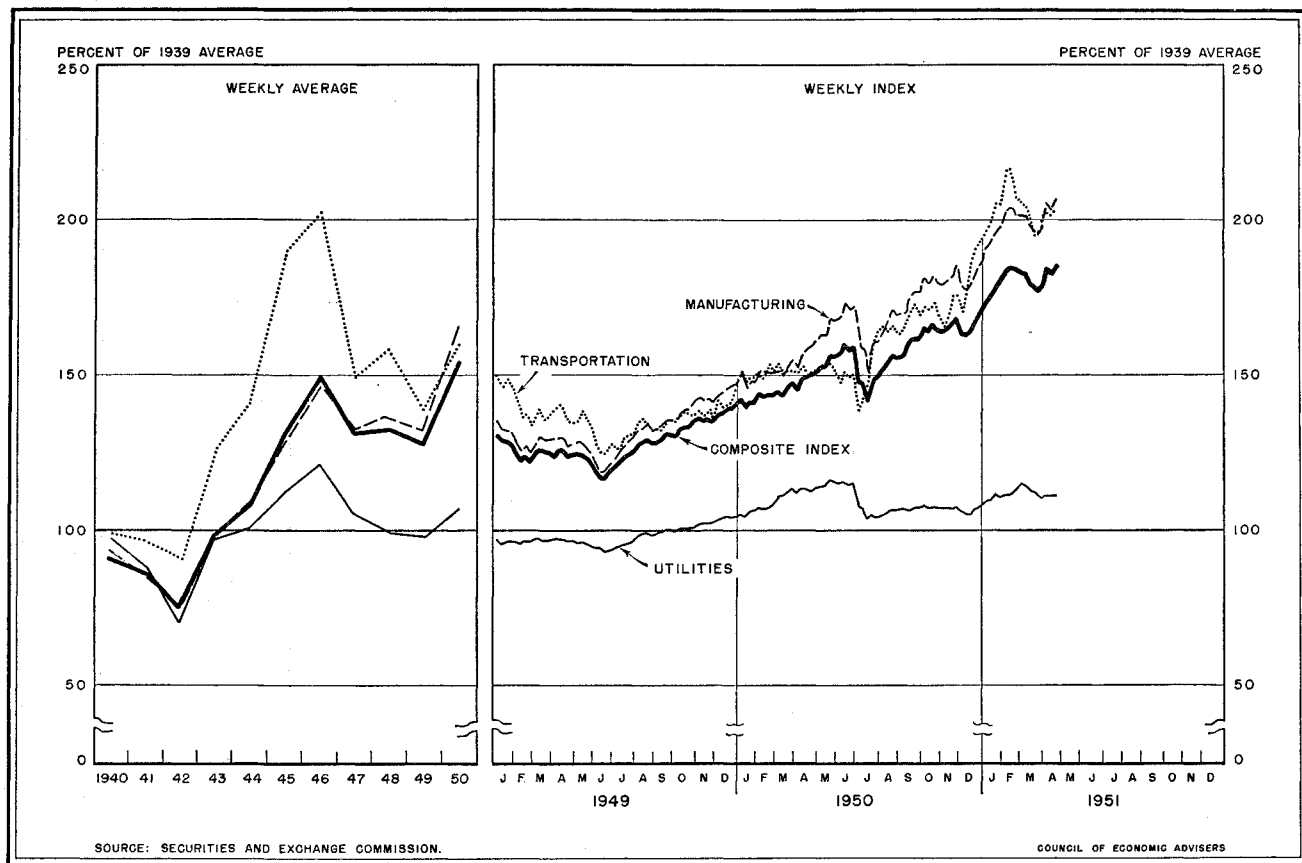
¹ Ratio of index of prices received to index of prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates.

² Includes wartime subsidy payments paid on beef cattle, sheep, lambs, milk, and butterfat between October 1943 and June 1946.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

STOCK PRICES

Most stock prices, with mining and nondurable manufacturing leading the way, rose rather briskly during April.



[1939=100]

Period	Com- posite index ¹	Mining	Manufacturing			Trans- portation	Utilities	Trade, finance, and service
			Total	Durable goods	Non- durable goods			
Weekly average:								
1940.....	90. 6	75. 9	93. 4	92. 5	94. 2	99. 1	97. 7	86. 7
1942.....	74. 9	59. 7	75. 5	73. 7	77. 1	90. 8	69. 8	71. 3
1944.....	108. 0	93. 2	108. 9	104. 5	109. 1	140. 5	100. 8	117. 1
1946.....	149. 6	125. 5	146. 6	138. 8	154. 4	202. 6	121. 0	204. 3
1948.....	132. 3	133. 2	136. 2	124. 4	147. 0	158. 1	99. 4	156. 9
1949.....	127. 6	129. 2	132. 1	116. 0	147. 2	138. 8	98. 1	160. 5
1950.....	154. 1	143. 5	165. 7	150. 4	180. 2	159. 9	107. 2	183. 8
1950: March.....	145. 4	133. 0	152. 5	138. 2	165. 9	152. 0	112. 0	179. 2
April.....	148. 9	133. 9	157. 8	142. 7	171. 7	151. 4	112. 8	178. 4
May.....	154. 7	142. 7	165. 4	149. 4	180. 2	152. 8	115. 0	180. 6
June.....	158. 3	143. 0	171. 1	156. 0	185. 0	149. 5	114. 8	182. 4
July.....	146. 7	133. 7	157. 9	142. 6	172. 2	150. 0	105. 5	170. 3
August.....	154. 4	146. 4	167. 6	151. 8	182. 2	164. 5	105. 9	176. 6
September.....	159. 3	150. 3	173. 3	157. 5	187. 9	168. 2	107. 1	187. 8
October.....	164. 9	154. 5	180. 3	166. 0	193. 7	171. 4	107. 8	198. 3
November.....	165. 9	157. 6	181. 8	166. 0	196. 5	171. 1	107. 4	200. 8
December.....	165. 2	159. 7	180. 4	161. 7	197. 9	184. 4	106. 5	195. 7
1951: January.....	176. 7	175. 9	194. 2	174. 8	212. 3	202. 0	110. 3	205. 1
February.....	184. 0	184. 2	203. 0	181. 6	222. 8	213. 1	112. 1	213. 2
March.....	179. 9	176. 7	198. 4	178. 2	217. 0	200. 0	112. 9	209. 7
April.....	183. 1	183. 4	203. 8	181. 2	224. 8	201. 9	111. 4	207. 8
Week ended:								
1951: April 7.....	179. 5	176. 9	198. 8	178. 3	217. 9	199. 6	111. 1	206. 0
14.....	184. 0	182. 4	205. 0	182. 5	225. 9	202. 9	111. 4	208. 1
21.....	183. 1	183. 6	203. 8	181. 3	224. 6	201. 5	111. 5	207. 9
28.....	185. 9	190. 6	207. 7	182. 8	230. 9	203. 6	111. 7	209. 3
May 5 ²	187. 6	192. 1	209. 7	182. 8	234. 8	205. 8	112. 4	210. 9

¹ Includes 265 common stocks, distributed as follows: 14 for mining, 98 for durable goods manufacturing, 72 for nondurable goods manufacturing, 21 for transportation, 28 for utilities, and 32 for trade, finance, and service.

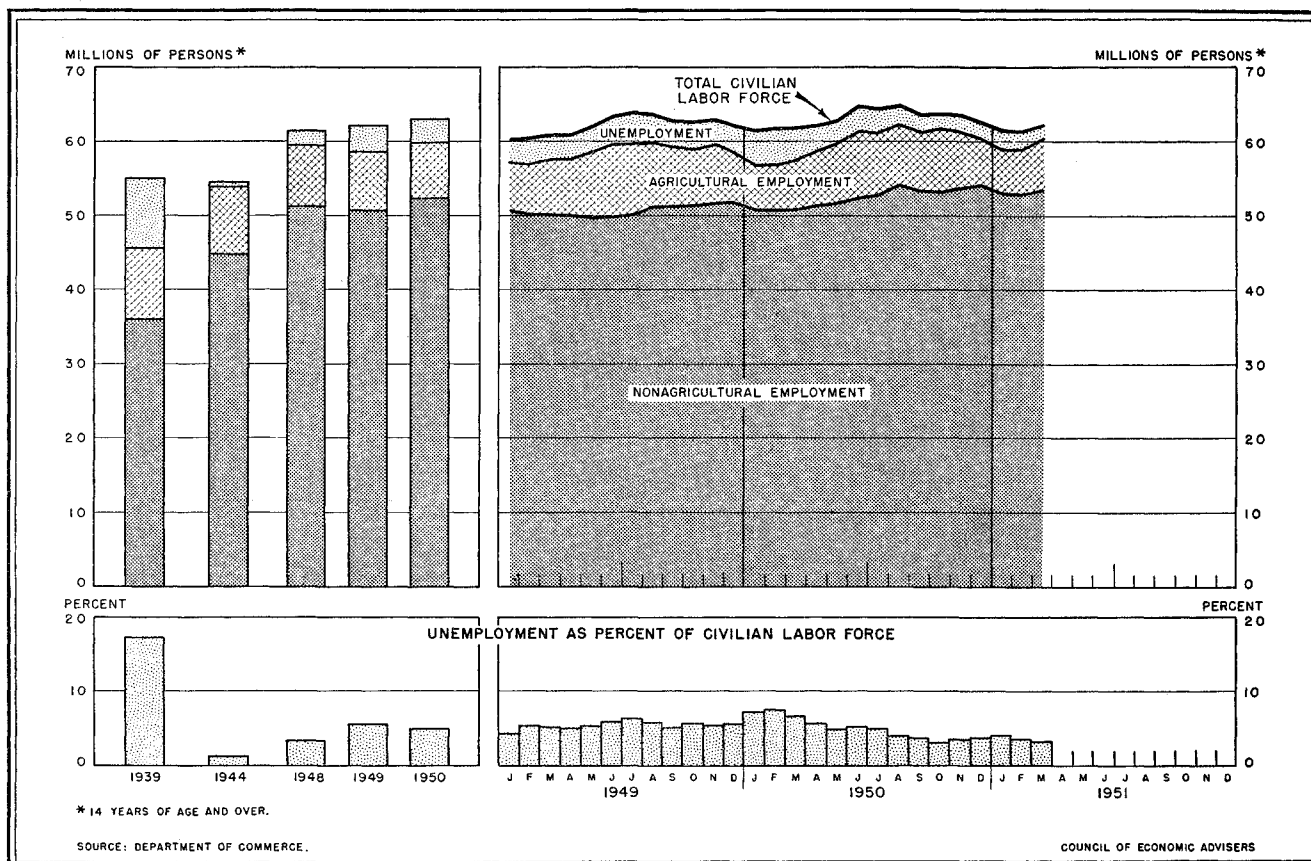
² Data became available after chart was prepared.

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Both the civilian labor force and total civilian employment showed small declines in April. Unemployment at 1.7 million was at its lowest postwar level for the month.



Period	Civilian labor force					Unemployment as percent of total civilian labor force
	Total	Employment ¹			Unemployment	
		Total	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		
	Thousands of persons, 14 years of age and over					
1939 monthly average.....	55,230	45,750	9,610	36,140	9,480	17.2
1944 monthly average.....	54,630	53,960	8,950	45,010	670	1.2
1947 monthly average.....	60,168	58,027	8,266	49,761	2,142	3.6
1948 monthly average.....	61,442	59,378	7,973	51,405	2,064	3.4
1949 monthly average.....	62,105	58,710	8,026	50,684	3,395	5.5
1950 monthly average.....	63,099	59,957	7,507	52,450	3,142	5.0
1950: March.....	61,675	57,551	6,675	50,877	4,123	6.7
April.....	62,183	58,668	7,195	51,473	3,515	5.7
May.....	62,788	59,731	8,062	51,669	3,057	4.9
June.....	64,866	61,482	9,046	52,436	3,384	5.2
July.....	64,427	61,214	8,440	52,774	3,213	5.0
August.....	64,867	62,367	8,160	54,207	2,500	3.9
September.....	63,567	61,226	7,811	53,415	2,341	3.7
October.....	63,704	61,764	8,491	53,273	1,940	3.0
November.....	63,512	61,271	7,551	53,721	2,240	3.5
December.....	62,538	60,308	6,234	54,075	2,229	3.6
1951: January.....	61,514	59,010	6,018	52,993	2,503	4.1
February.....	61,313	58,905	5,930	52,976	2,407	3.9
March.....	62,325	60,179	6,393	53,785	2,147	3.4
April ²	61,789	60,044	6,645	53,400	1,744	2.8

¹ Includes part-time workers and those who had jobs but were not at work for such reasons as vacation, illness, bad weather, temporary lay-off, and industrial disputes.

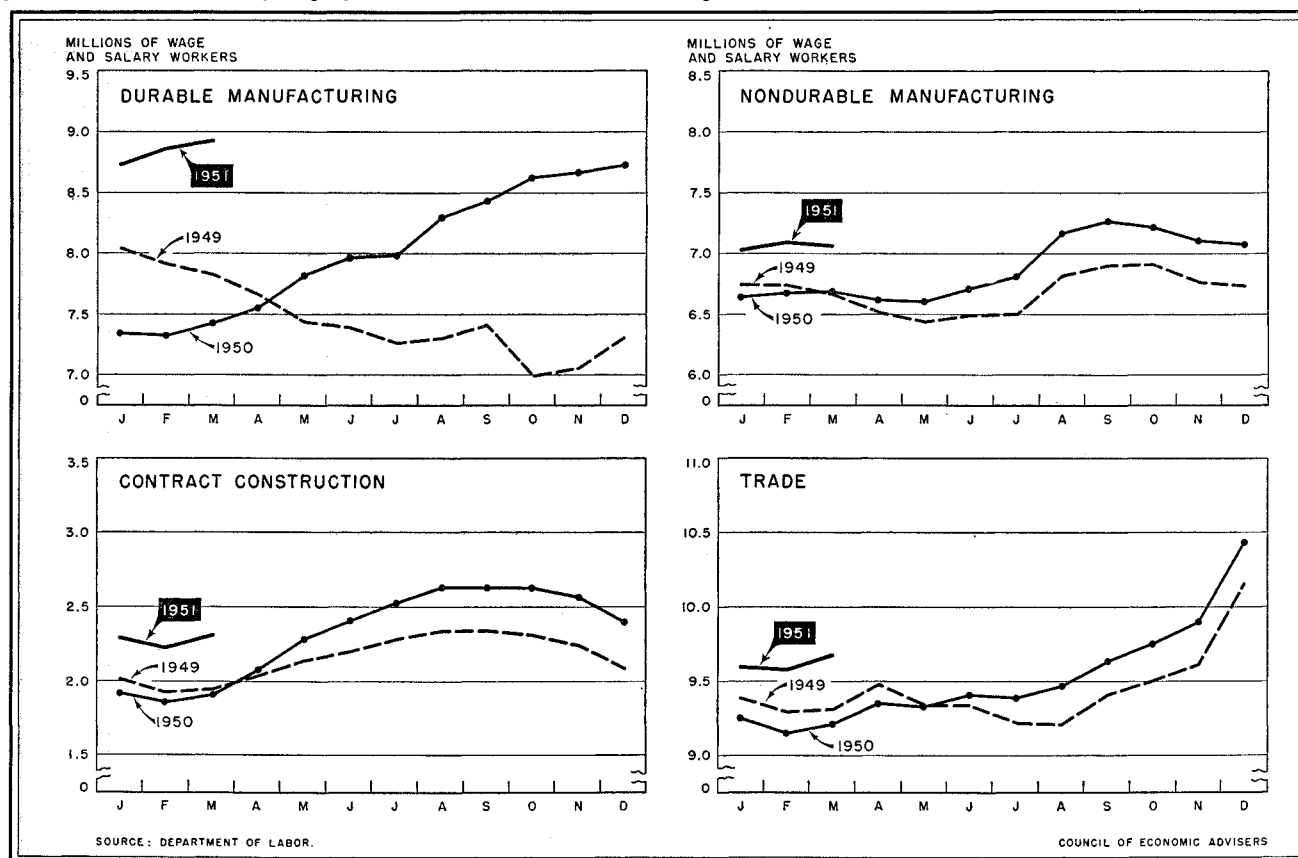
² Data became available after chart was prepared.

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

Source: Department of Commerce

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing employment in durable goods industries increased in March because of gains in aircraft and machinery plants and continued high output of civilian goods. Decreased employment in nondurable industries reflected the customary seasonal declines in apparel and the work stoppages in wool textile mills. Government employment gained almost 100,000, largely because Federal defense hiring continued.



[Thousands of wage and salary workers ¹]

Period	Manufacturing			Contract construction	Trade	Finance and service	Government (Federal, State, local)	Transportation and public utilities	Mining
	Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods						
1939 monthly average.....	10, 078	4, 683	5, 394	1, 150	6, 612	4, 703	3, 987	2, 912	845
1943 monthly average.....	17, 381	11, 077	6, 304	1, 567	7, 189	5, 320	6, 049	3, 619	917
1946 monthly average.....	14, 461	7, 739	6, 722	1, 661	8, 612	6, 207	5, 607	4, 023	852
1947 monthly average.....	15, 247	8, 373	6, 874	1, 982	9, 196	6, 427	5, 454	4, 122	943
1948 monthly average.....	15, 286	8, 315	6, 970	2, 165	9, 491	6, 515	5, 613	4, 151	981
1949 monthly average.....	14, 146	7, 465	6, 681	2, 156	9, 438	6, 545	5, 811	3, 979	932
1950 monthly average.....	14, 884	8, 008	6, 876	2, 318	9, 524	6, 573	5, 910	4, 010	904
1950: February.....	13, 997	7, 324	6, 673	1, 861	9, 152	6, 473	5, 742	3, 841	595
March.....	14, 103	7, 418	6, 685	1, 907	9, 206	6, 499	5, 769	3, 873	938
April.....	14, 162	7, 548	6, 614	2, 076	9, 346	6, 560	5, 915	3, 928	939
May.....	14, 413	7, 809	6, 604	2, 245	9, 326	6, 602	5, 900	3, 885	940
June.....	14, 666	7, 964	6, 702	2, 414	9, 411	6, 653	5, 832	4, 023	946
July.....	14, 777	7, 978	6, 799	2, 532	9, 390	6, 672	5, 741	4, 062	922
August.....	15, 450	8, 294	7, 156	2, 629	9, 474	6, 664	5, 793	4, 120	950
September.....	15, 685	8, 423	7, 262	2, 626	9, 641	6, 643	6, 004	4, 139	946
October.....	15, 827	8, 618	7, 209	2, 631	9, 752	6, 578	6, 039	4, 132	939
November.....	15, 765	8, 664	7, 101	2, 571	9, 896	6, 543	6, 037	4, 123	938
December.....	15, 789	8, 717	7, 072	2, 403	10, 443	6, 522	6, 376	4, 125	937
1951: January ²	15, 766	8, 732	7, 034	2, 288	9, 603	6, 496	6, 088	4, 071	932
February ²	15, 957	8, 864	7, 093	2, 228	9, 595	6, 497	6, 122	4, 081	933
March ²	15, 985	8, 927	7, 058	2, 314	9, 679	6, 531	6, 217	4, 131	929

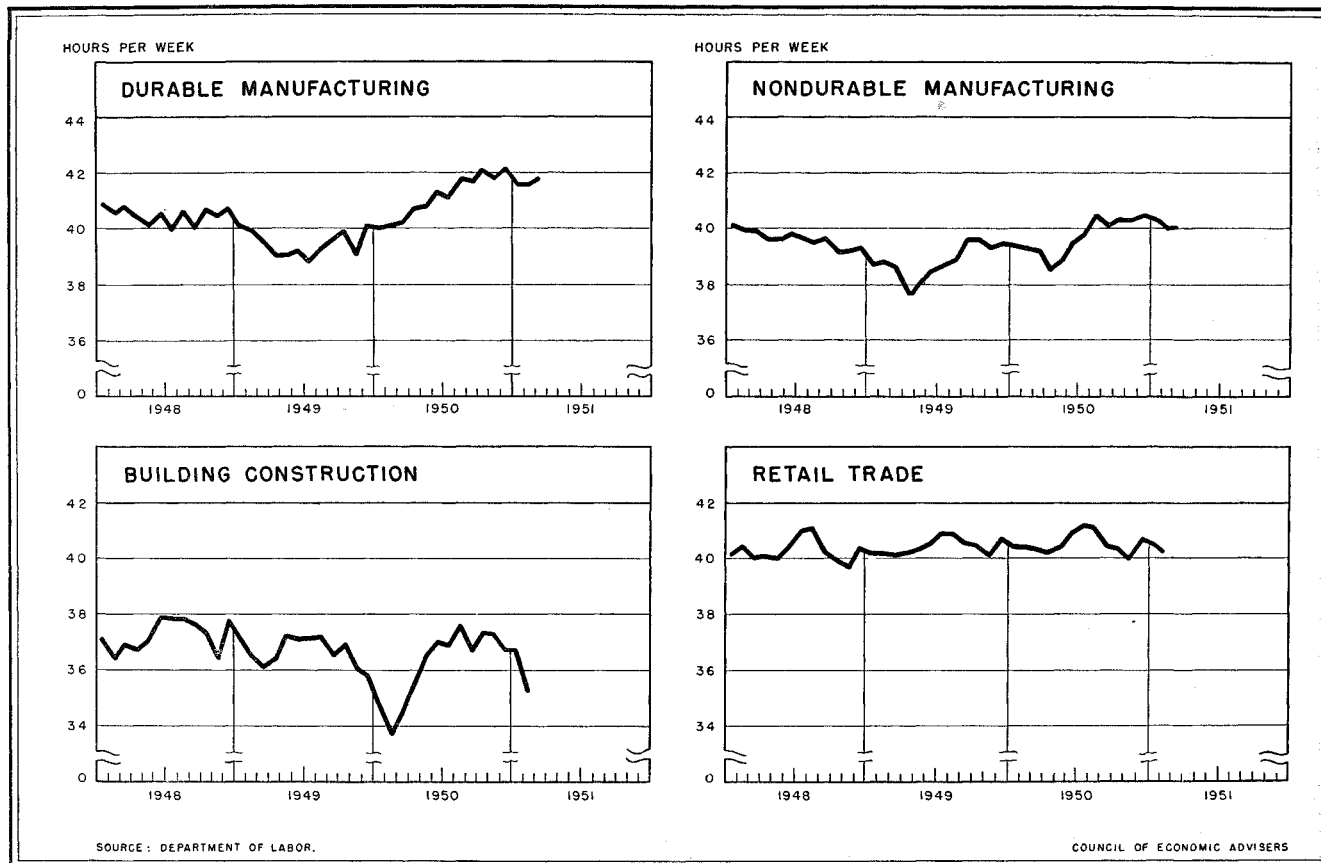
¹ Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Excludes proprietors, self-employed persons, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces. Total derived from this table not comparable with estimates of nonagricultural employment of the civilian labor force reported by the Department of Commerce (p. 7) which include proprietors, self-employed persons, and domestic servants; which count persons as employed when they are not at work because of industrial disputes; and which are based on an enumeration of population, whereas the estimates in this table are based on reports from employing establishments.

² Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

The average workweek in durable-goods manufacturing reflected the longer hours scheduled in metal working and other durable-goods industries. In nondurables, the workweek remained below the average for the last quarter of 1950.



[Hours per week, selected industries¹]

Period	Manufacturing			Building construction	Retail trade
	Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods		
1939 monthly average.....	37.7	38.0	37.4	(²)	(²)
1943 monthly average.....	44.9	46.6	42.5	(²)	(²)
1946 monthly average.....	40.4	40.2	40.5	(²)	(²)
1947 monthly average.....	40.4	40.6	40.1	(²)	40.3
1948 monthly average.....	40.1	40.5	39.6	37.3	40.3
1949 monthly average.....	39.2	39.5	38.8	36.7	40.4
1950 monthly average.....	40.5	41.2	39.7	36.3	40.5
1950: February.....	39.7	40.1	39.3	33.7	40.4
March.....	39.7	40.2	39.2	34.5	40.3
April.....	39.7	40.7	38.5	35.6	40.2
May.....	39.9	40.8	38.9	36.5	40.4
June.....	40.5	41.3	39.5	37.0	40.9
July.....	40.5	41.1	39.8	36.9	41.2
August.....	41.2	41.8	40.5	37.6	41.1
September.....	41.0	41.7	40.1	36.7	40.4
October.....	41.3	42.1	40.3	37.4	40.3
November.....	41.1	41.8	40.3	37.3	40.0
December.....	41.4	42.2	40.5	36.7	40.7
1951: January ³	41.0	41.6	40.3	36.7	40.5
February ³	40.9	41.6	40.0	35.2	40.2
March ³	41.1	41.8	40.1	(²)	(²)

¹ For production and related workers.

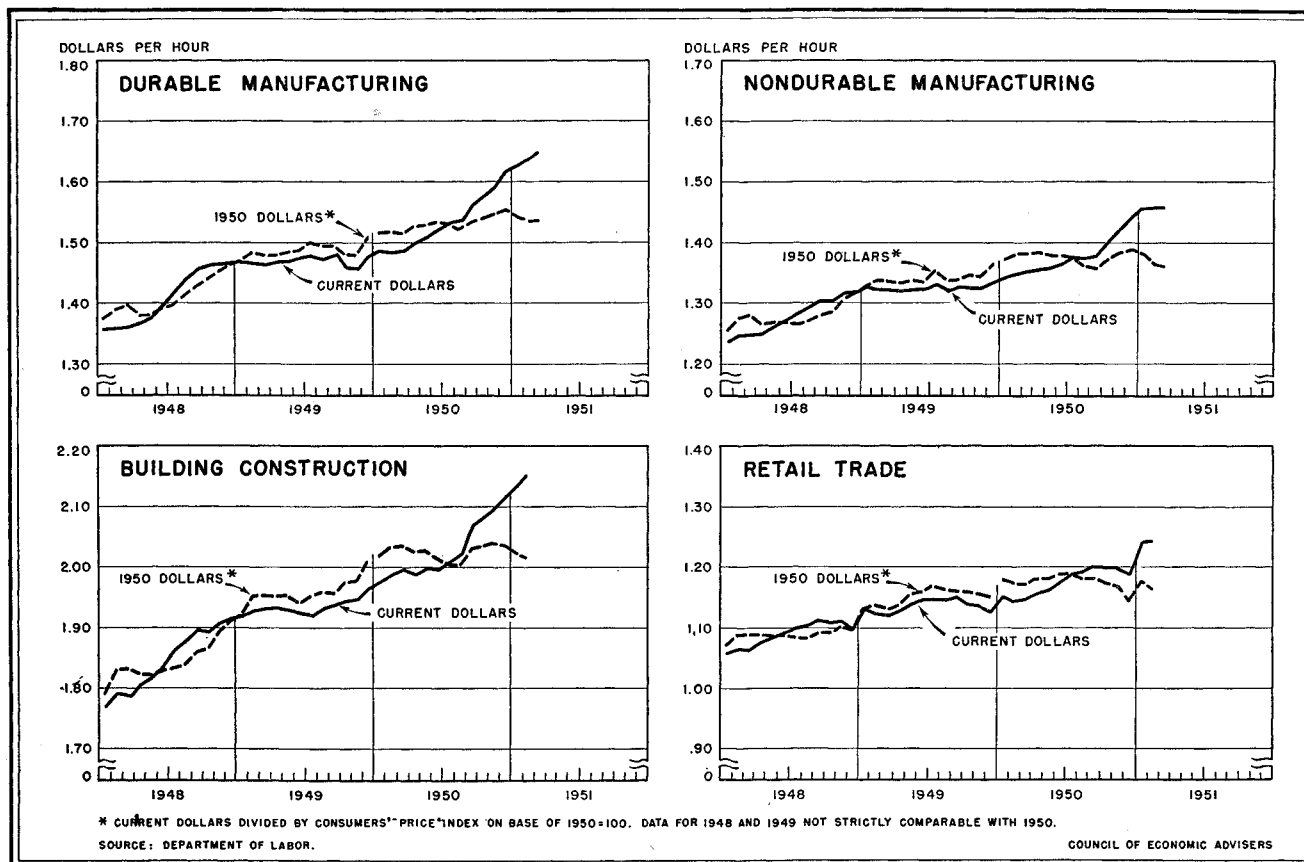
² Not available.

³ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

An increase of almost a cent in average hourly earnings in durable-goods industries between February and March reflected overtime pay and some minor adjustments in wage rates. Earnings remained the same in nondurable industries.



[Production and related workers in selected industries]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹
1939 monthly average	\$0. 633	\$1. 090	\$0. 698	\$1. 201	\$0. 582	\$1. 002	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
1943 monthly average	. 961	1. 335	1. 059	1. 471	. 803	1. 115	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
1946 monthly average	1. 086	1. 337	1. 156	1. 424	1. 015	1. 250	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
1947 monthly average	1. 237	1. 333	1. 292	1. 392	1. 171	1. 262	(²)	(²)	\$1. 009	\$1. 087
1948 monthly average	1. 350	1. 350	1. 410	1. 410	1. 278	1. 278	\$1. 848	\$1. 848	1. 088	1. 088
1949 monthly average	1. 401	1. 415	1. 469	1. 484	1. 325	1. 338	1. 935	1. 955	1. 137	1. 148
1950 monthly average	1. 465	1. 465	1. 537	1. 537	1. 378	1. 378	2. 031	2. 031	1. 176	1. 176
1950: February	1. 420	1. 453	1. 483	1. 518	1. 350	1. 382	1. 988	2. 035	1. 145	1. 172
March	1. 424	1. 453	1. 486	1. 516	1. 353	1. 381	1. 995	2. 036	1. 148	1. 171
April	1. 434	1. 463	1. 499	1. 530	1. 355	1. 383	1. 986	2. 027	1. 156	1. 180
May	1. 442	1. 464	1. 509	1. 532	1. 358	1. 379	1. 998	2. 028	1. 162	1. 180
June	1. 453	1. 468	1. 522	1. 537	1. 365	1. 379	1. 995	2. 015	1. 175	1. 187
July	1. 462	1. 461	1. 533	1. 531	1. 375	1. 374	2. 006	2. 004	1. 189	1. 188
August	1. 464	1. 451	1. 539	1. 525	1. 374	1. 362	2. 021	2. 003	1. 192	1. 181
September	1. 479	1. 456	1. 562	1. 537	1. 379	1. 357	2. 067	2. 034	1. 200	1. 181
October	1. 501	1. 468	1. 577	1. 543	1. 404	1. 374	2. 082	2. 037	1. 199	1. 173
November	1. 514	1. 476	1. 587	1. 547	1. 419	1. 383	2. 093	2. 040	1. 198	1. 168
December	1. 543	1. 484	1. 619	1. 557	1. 443	1. 338	2. 120	2. 038	1. 187	1. 141
1951: January ³	1. 554	1. 472	1. 629	1. 543	1. 456	1. 379	2. 138	2. 025	1. 240	1. 174
February ³	1. 559	1. 458	1. 637	1. 531	1. 458	1. 364	2. 155	2. 016	1. 242	1. 162
March ³	1. 566	1. 459	1. 646	1. 534	1. 458	1. 359	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)

¹ Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on base 1950=100.

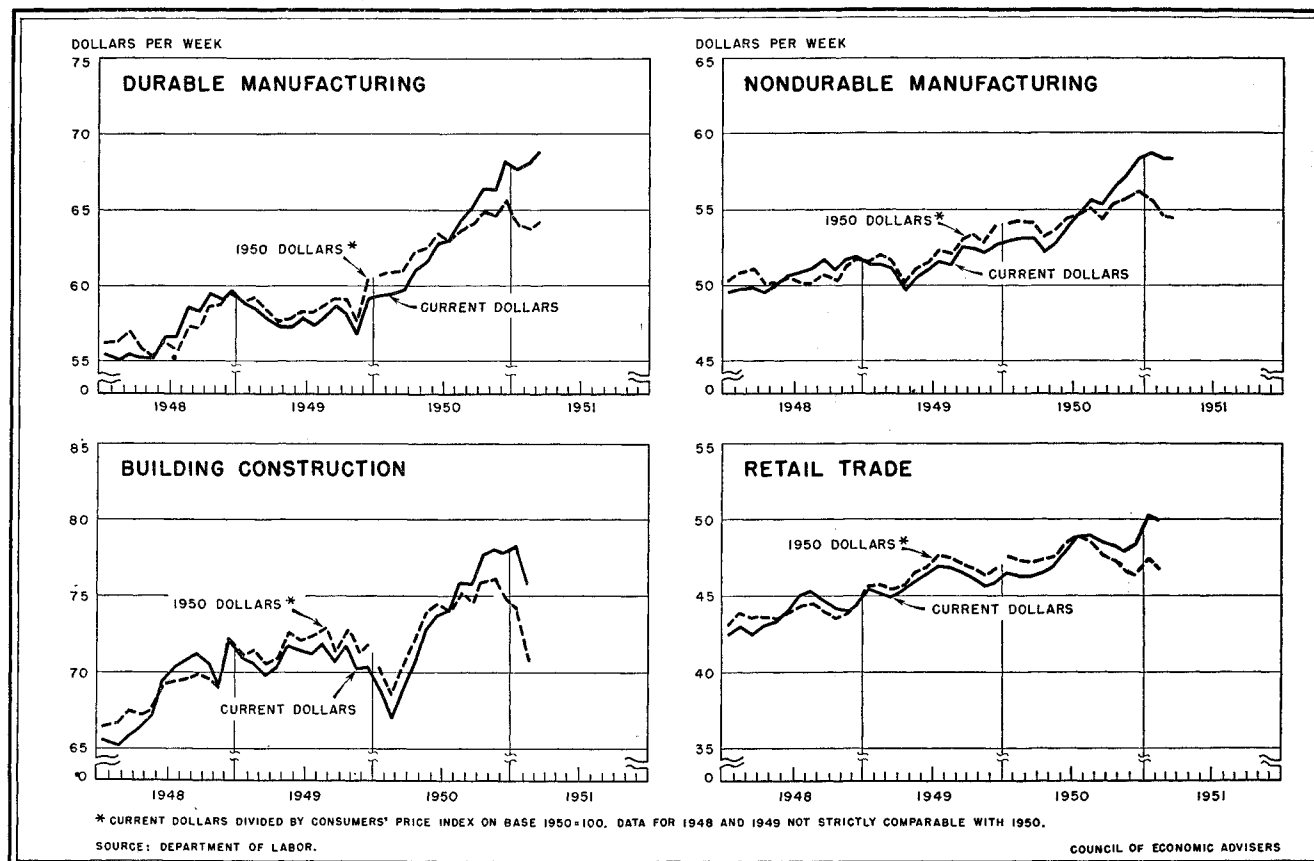
² Not available.

³ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

In durable-goods-manufacturing industries, weekly earnings increased by 70 cents; in nondurables, they increased by 15 cents.



[Production and related workers in selected industries]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹	Current dollars	1950 dollars ¹
1939 monthly average	\$23.86	\$41.07	\$26.50	\$45.61	\$21.78	\$37.49	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1943 monthly average	43.14	59.92	49.30	68.47	34.12	47.39	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1946 monthly average	43.82	53.97	46.49	57.25	41.14	50.67	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1947 monthly average	49.97	53.85	52.46	56.53	46.96	50.63	(2)	(2)	\$40.66	\$43.81
1948 monthly average	54.14	54.14	57.11	57.11	50.61	50.61	\$68.85	\$68.85	43.85	43.85
1949 monthly average	54.92	55.47	58.03	58.62	51.41	51.93	70.95	71.67	45.93	46.31
1950 monthly average	59.33	59.33	63.32	63.32	54.71	54.71	73.73	73.73	47.63	47.63
1950: February	56.37	57.70	59.47	60.87	53.06	54.31	67.00	68.58	46.26	47.35
March	56.53	57.68	59.74	60.96	53.04	54.12	68.83	70.23	46.26	47.20
April	56.93	58.09	61.01	62.26	52.17	53.23	70.70	72.14	46.47	47.42
May	57.54	58.42	61.57	62.51	52.83	53.63	72.93	74.04	46.94	47.65
June	58.85	59.44	62.86	63.49	53.92	54.46	73.82	74.57	48.06	48.55
July	59.21	59.15	63.01	62.95	54.73	54.68	74.02	73.95	48.99	48.94
August	60.32	59.78	64.33	63.76	55.65	55.15	75.99	75.31	48.99	48.55
September	60.64	59.68	65.14	64.11	55.30	54.43	75.86	74.67	48.48	47.72
October	61.99	60.66	66.39	64.96	56.58	55.36	77.87	76.19	48.32	47.28
November	62.23	60.65	66.34	64.66	57.19	55.74	78.07	76.09	47.92	46.71
December	63.88	61.42	68.32	65.69	58.44	56.19	77.80	74.81	48.31	46.45
1951: January ³	63.71	60.33	67.77	64.18	58.68	55.57	78.46	74.30	50.22	47.56
February ³	63.76	59.64	68.10	63.70	58.32	54.56	75.86	70.96	49.93	46.71
March ³	64.36	59.98	68.80	64.12	58.47	54.49	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

¹ Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on base 1950=100.

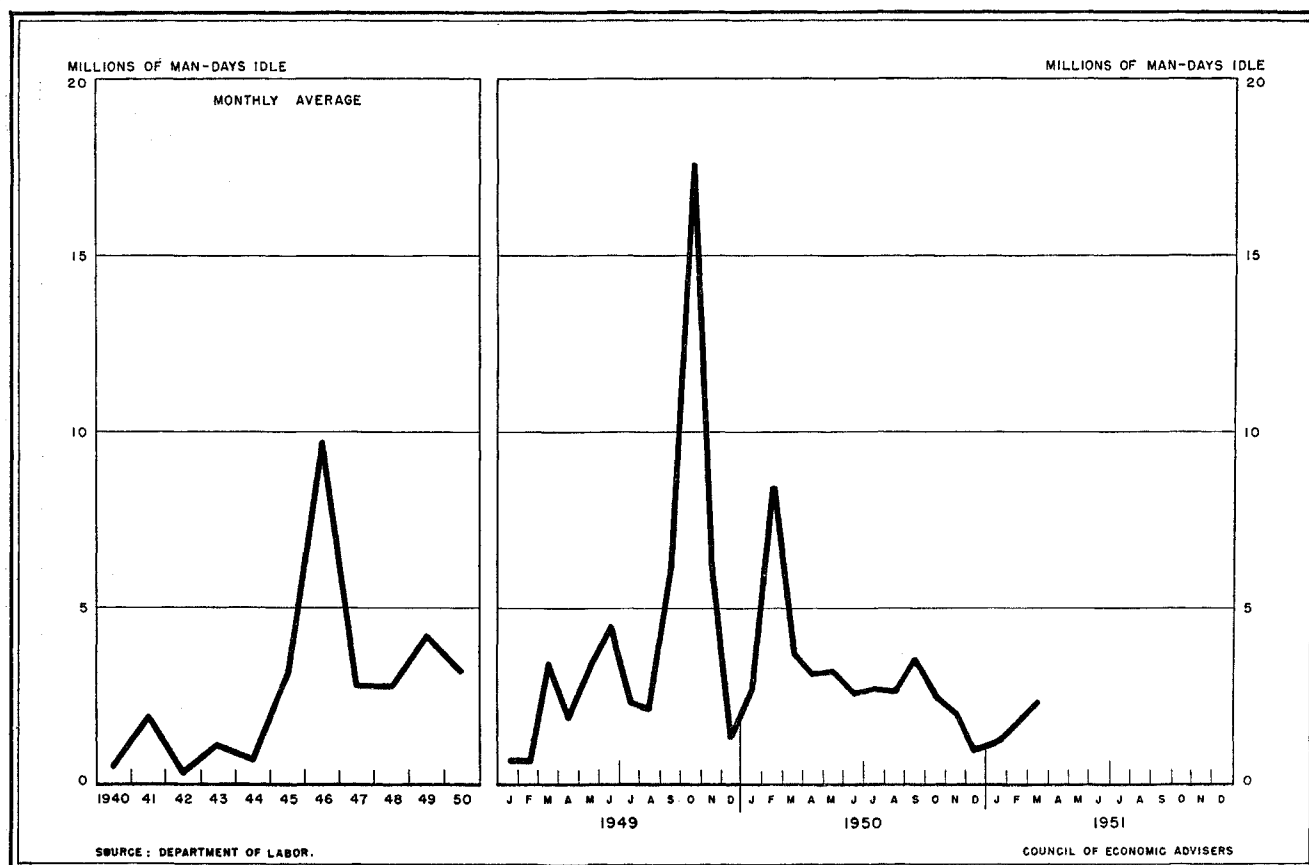
² Not available.

³ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

WORK STOPPAGES

Although the number of stoppages in March was the same as in February man-days of idleness increased. One stoppage involving approximately 70,000 workers lasted throughout the major part of the month.



Period	Man-days of idleness during period		Workers involved in stoppages		Number of stoppages	
	Monthly average (thousands)	Percent of estimated workingtime	Beginning in period (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Beginning in period	In effect during month
1939.....	1,483	0.28	1,170	-----	2,613	-----
1941.....	1,917	.32	2,360	-----	4,288	-----
1942.....	348	.05	840	-----	2,968	-----
1944.....	727	.09	2,120	-----	4,956	-----
1945.....	3,167	.47	3,470	-----	4,750	-----
1946.....	9,667	1.43	4,600	-----	4,985	-----
1947.....	2,883	.41	2,170	-----	3,693	-----
1948.....	2,842	.37	1,960	-----	3,419	-----
1949.....	4,208	.59	3,030	-----	3,606	-----
1950.....	3,233	.44	2,410	-----	4,843	-----
1950: February.....	8,590	1.39	56	527	206	358
March.....	3,870	.51	85	566	298	453
April.....	3,280	.49	159	294	407	605
May.....	3,270	.44	354	508	485	723
June.....	2,630	.34	278	373	483	768
July.....	2,750	.39	224	389	463	732
August.....	2,660	.32	346	441	635	918
September.....	3,510	.48	270	450	521	820
October.....	2,590	.32	197	330	550	801
November.....	2,050	.27	200	308	329	605
December.....	912	.12	61	114	218	423
1951: January ¹	1,200	.15	185	215	400	550
February ¹	1,700	.25	220	300	350	550
March ¹	2,300	.29	140	280	350	550

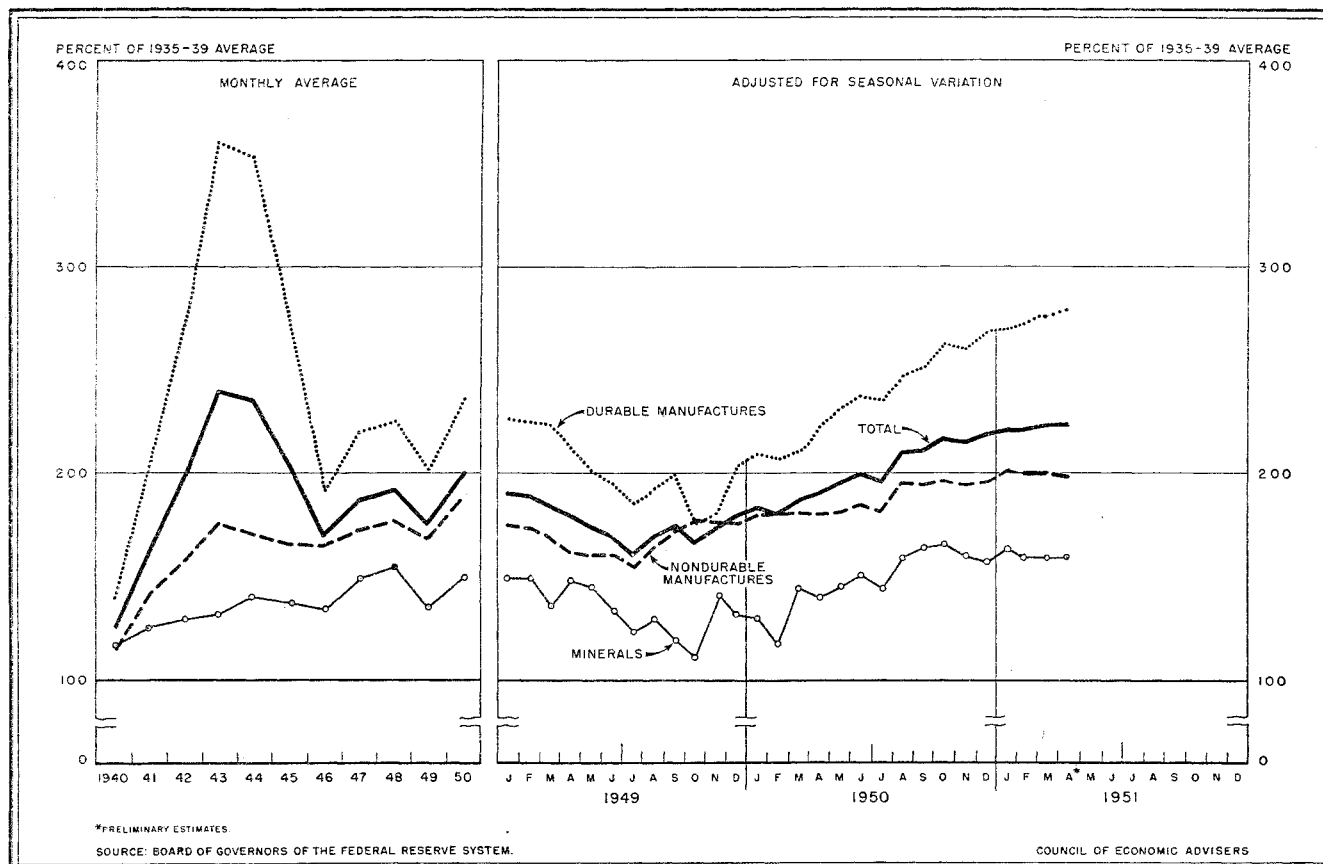
¹ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Total industrial production continued at the March level during April. The increased output of durable goods, particularly producers' equipment, was offset by a decline in the manufacture of nondurables. The slight gain in the output of minerals was due to increased production of crude petroleum.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

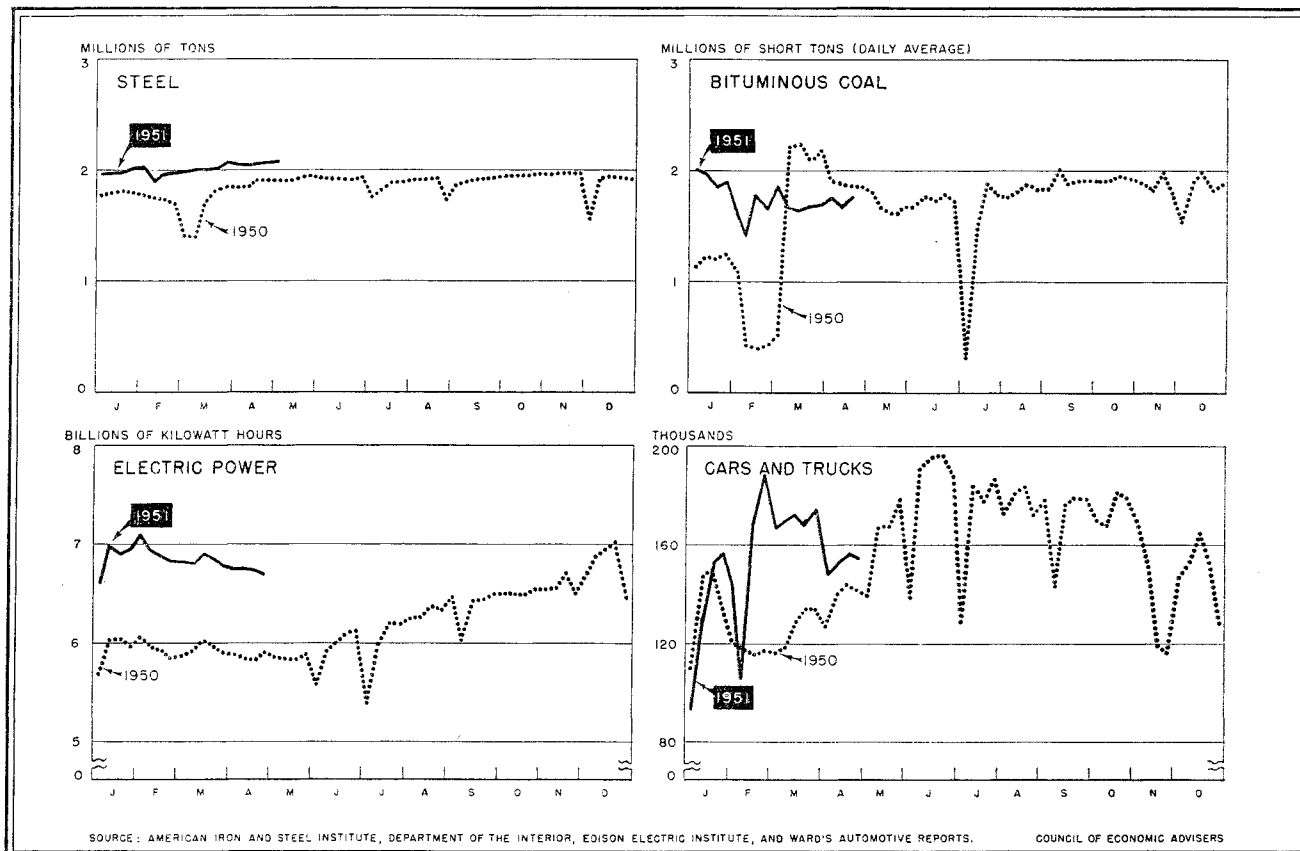
Period	Total industrial production	Manufactures			Minerals
		Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods	
1943 monthly average.....	239	258	360	176	132
1946 monthly average.....	170	177	192	165	134
1947 monthly average.....	187	194	220	172	149
1948 monthly average.....	192	198	225	177	155
1949 monthly average.....	176	183	202	168	135
1950 monthly average.....	200	209	237	187	148
1950: March.....	187	194	211	181	144
April.....	190	199	222	180	140
May.....	195	204	231	181	145
June.....	199	208	237	184	151
July.....	196	206	235	181	144
August.....	209	218	247	195	159
September.....	211	220	251	194	163
October.....	216	225	262	196	166
November.....	215	224	260	195	160
December.....	218	229	268	197	157
1951: January.....	221	231	268	201	164
February.....	221	232	271	200	158
March ¹	222	234	276	200	158
April ¹	222	234	278	198	159

¹ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

WEEKLY PRODUCTION - SELECTED INDICATORS

Total production of steel in April exceeded any other four-week period on record and in the first week of May reached the highest level ever attained. Output of motor vehicles in April fell about 10 percent below March, due to imposition of restrictions on the use of strategic materials. Electric power production continued to decline moderately.



Period	Steel		Electric power, by utilities (millions of kilowatt-hours)	Bituminous coal (thousands of short tons) ²	Cars and trucks (number)
	Thousands of net tons	Percent of theoretical capacity ¹			
Weekly average:					
1947.....	1, 628	93. 0	4, 821	2, 058	92, 163
1948.....	1, 695	94. 1	5, 300	1, 948	82, 340
1949.....	1, 496	81. 0	5, 500	1, 427	120, 350
1950.....	1, 855	96. 7	6, 183	1, 673	153, 546
1950: March.....	1, 690	88. 7	5, 947	1, 985	131, 034
April.....	1, 914	100. 4	5, 877	1, 903	130, 167
May.....	1, 930	101. 3	5, 821	1, 728	158, 025
June.....	1, 895	99. 4	6, 038	1, 762	199, 524
July.....	1, 826	94. 7	5, 940	1, 404	160, 997
August.....	1, 858	96. 3	6, 335	1, 855	185, 127
September.....	1, 914	99. 3	6, 360	1, 892	167, 358
October.....	1, 973	102. 3	6, 522	1, 976	173, 135
November.....	1, 868	96. 8	6, 615	1, 820	140, 612
December.....	1, 888	97. 9	6, 852	1, 900	141, 766
1951: January.....	1, 993	99. 7	6, 866	1, 960	140, 216
February.....	1, 970	98. 6	6, 948	1, 610	151, 053
March.....	2, 021	101. 1	6, 827	1, 713	170, 253
April ³	2, 054	102. 7	6, 722	1, 731	152, 948
Week ended:					
1951: April 7.....	2, 047	102. 4	6, 736	1, 752	148, 284
14.....	2, 045	102. 3	6, 747	1, 662	152, 909
21.....	2, 057	102. 9	6, 730	1, 772	157, 013
28.....	2, 065	103. 3	6, 674	1, 737	153, 586
May 5.....	2, 079	104. 0	-----	-----	147, 375
12.....	2, 073	103. 7	-----	-----	-----

¹ Based on weekly net ton capacity of 1,749,928 for 1947, 1,802,476 for 1948, 1,843,516 for 1949, 1,906,268 for the first half of 1950, 1,928,721 beginning July 1, 1950, and 1,999,034 beginning January 1, 1951.

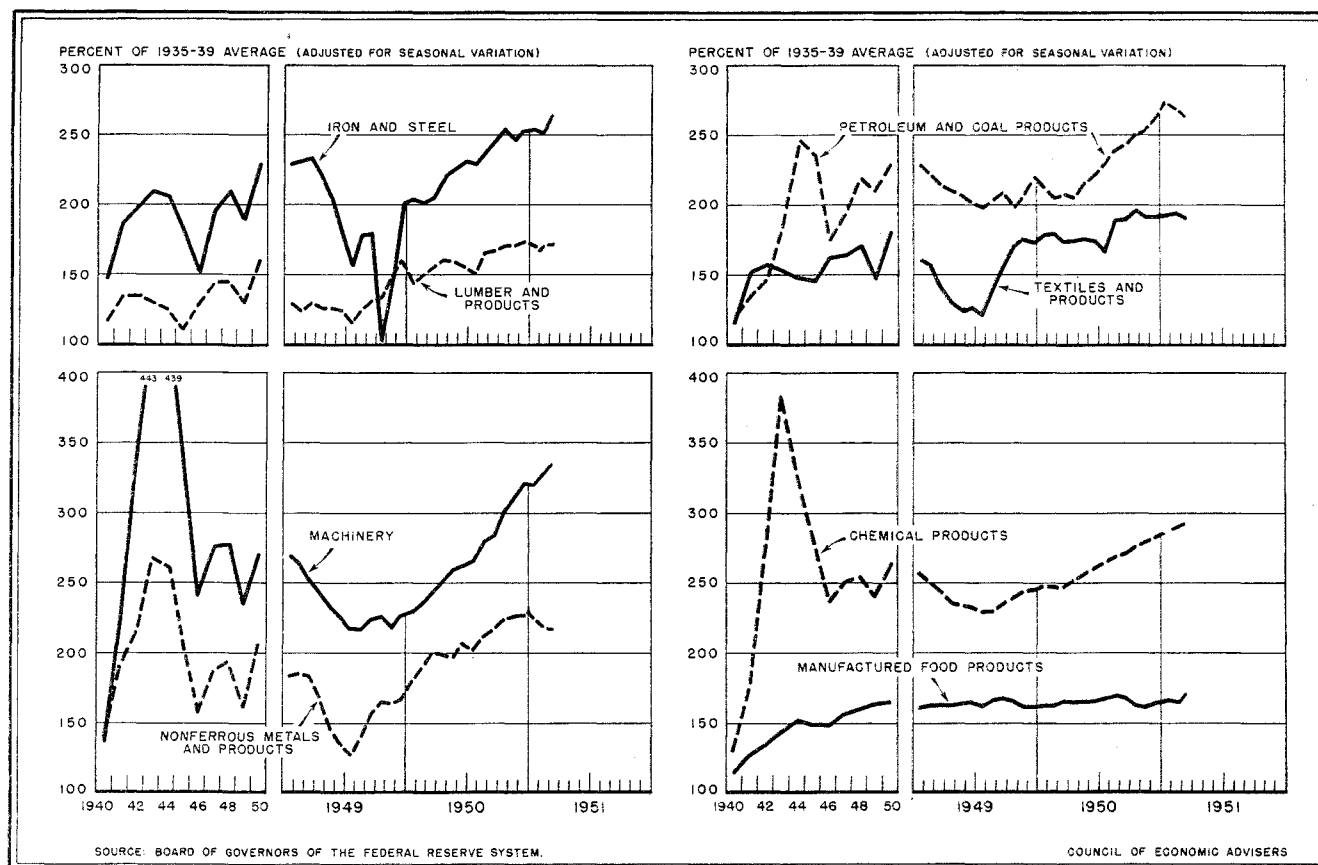
² Daily average for week.

³ Preliminary estimates.

Sources: American Iron and Steel Institute, Edison Electric Institute, Department of the Interior, and Ward's Automotive Reports.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MANUFACTURES

Manufacture of iron and steel and machinery spurted in March. Output of textiles declined primarily as a result of the strike in the wool-textile industry. Production of petroleum and coal products also fell.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

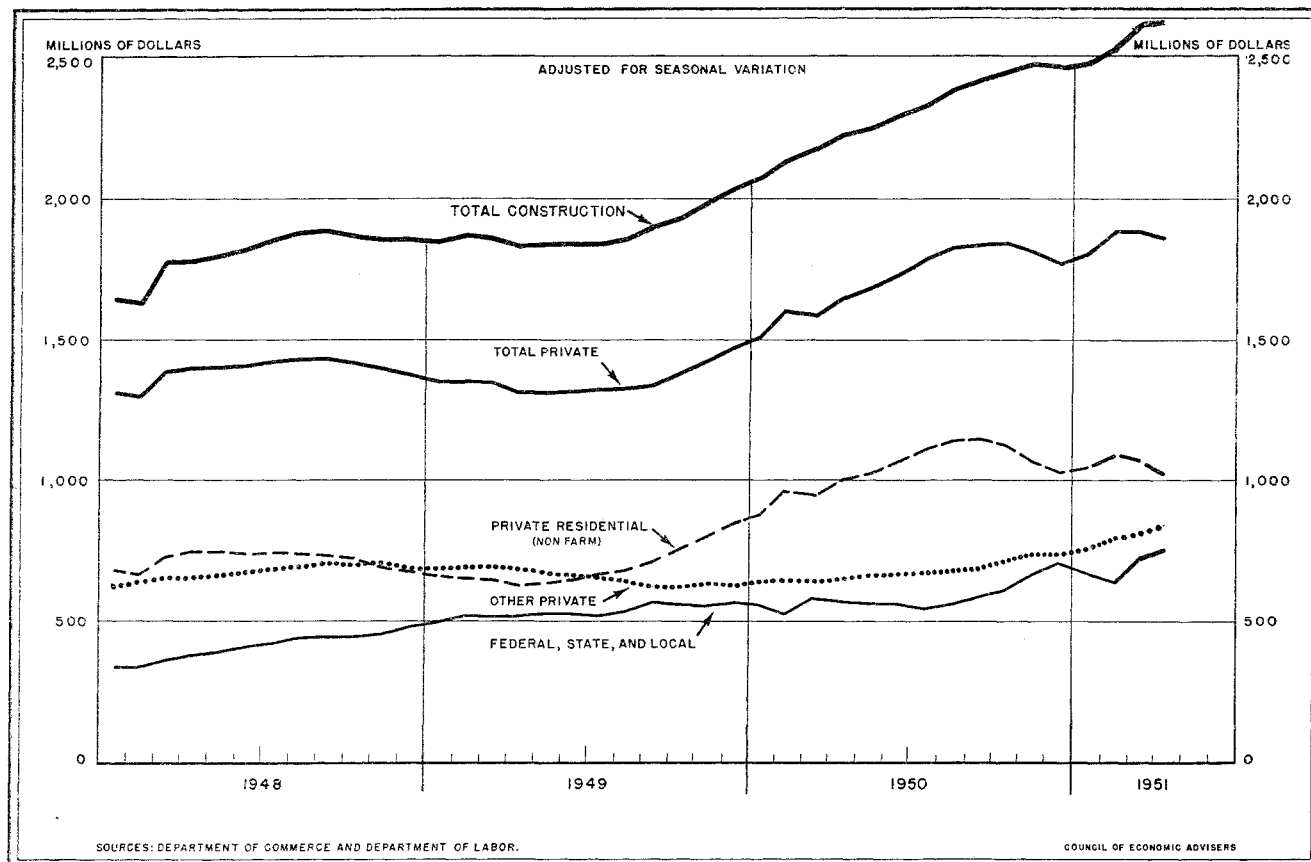
Period	Durable manufactures				Nondurable manufactures			
	Iron and steel	Lumber and products	Machinery	Nonferrous metals and products	Textiles and products	Petroleum and coal products	Manufactured food products	Chemical products
1943 monthly average.....	208	129	443	267	153	185	145	384
1946 monthly average.....	150	131	240	157	162	173	149	236
1947 monthly average.....	195	143	276	187	163	193	157	251
1948 monthly average.....	208	145	277	193	170	218	159	254
1949 monthly average.....	188	130	234	160	147	209	163	241
1950 monthly average.....	229	159	270	207	182	229	164	263
1950: February.....	201	150	236	190	179	205	161	247
March.....	205	156	243	200	173	207	165	247
April.....	222	159	251	198	174	206	164	252
May.....	226	158	258	197	175	216	164	256
June.....	231	155	262	207	173	222	164	261
July.....	228	151	265	202	165	229	167	263
August.....	236	165	279	212	189	238	168	269
September.....	245	166	283	216	191	243	167	271
October.....	253	166	303	223	197	251	162	277
November.....	246	169	311	227	193	253	161	280
December.....	253	173	321	227	194	263	165	283
1951: January.....	254	171	321	224	193	277	167	287
February.....	252	169	328	218	194	268	166	288
March ¹	262	170	334	216	189	263	170	291

¹ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

The value of new construction in April (seasonally adjusted) rose slightly. A 5-percent drop in expenditures for private residential construction was counterbalanced by increased outlays for other private building and for public construction.



[Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted]

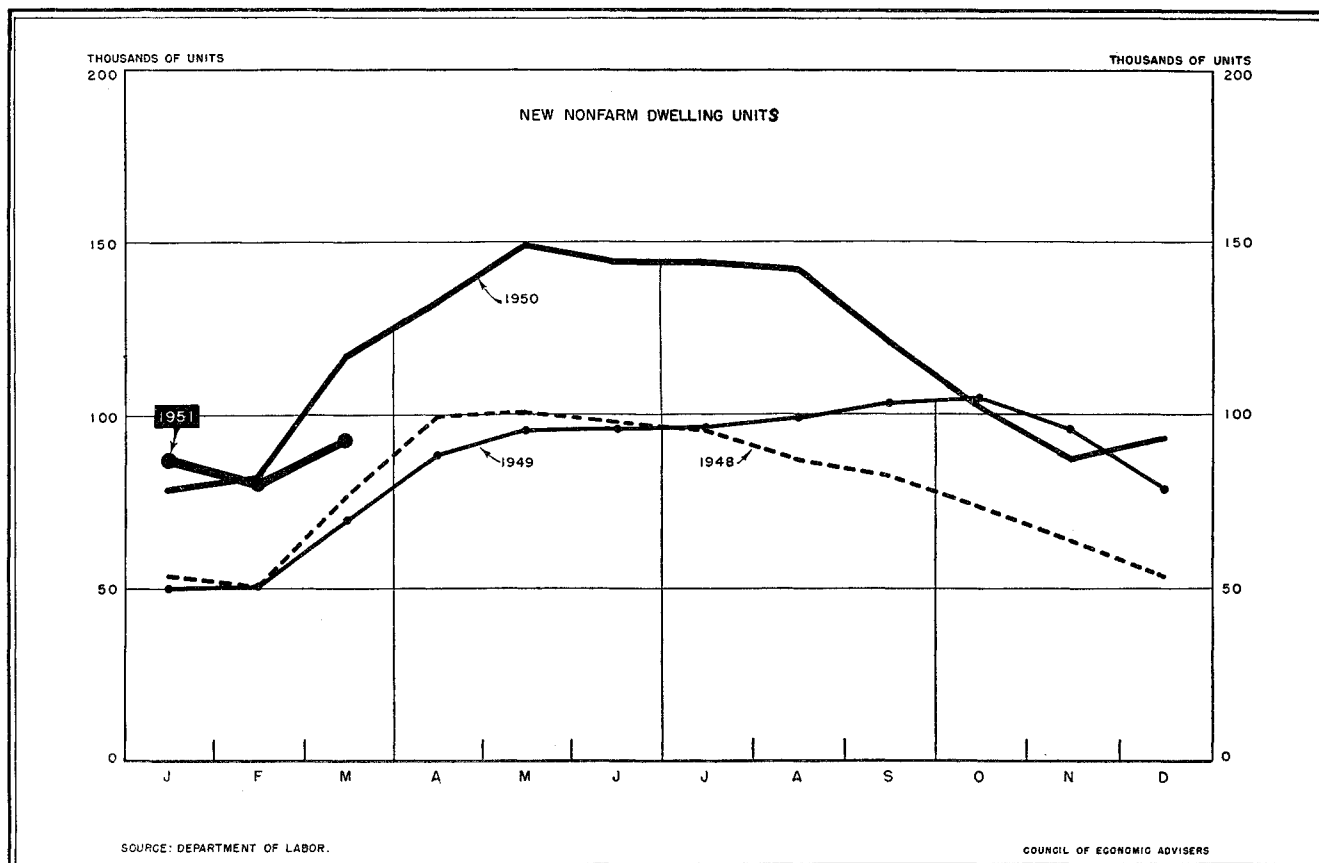
Period	Total new construction	Private construction			Federal, State, and local ¹
		Total private	Residential (nonfarm)	Other	
1939 monthly average.....	683	366	223	142	317
1942 monthly average.....	1,173	285	143	142	888
1944 monthly average.....	438	182	68	114	256
1946 monthly average.....	1,000	803	335	469	197
1948 monthly average.....	1,798	1,389	715	674	409
1949 monthly average.....	1,883	1,350	691	659	532
1950 monthly average.....	2,310	1,721	1,042	679	589
1950: March.....	2,179	1,592	950	642	587
April.....	2,227	1,648	1,000	648	579
May.....	2,250	1,685	1,025	660	565
June.....	2,293	1,729	1,065	664	564
July.....	2,333	1,786	1,110	676	547
August.....	2,388	1,824	1,140	684	564
September.....	2,427	1,836	1,145	691	591
October.....	2,454	1,842	1,125	717	612
November.....	2,479	1,813	1,070	743	666
December.....	2,472	1,767	1,030	737	705
1951: January.....	2,477	1,807	1,048	759	670
February.....	2,522	1,886	1,093	793	636
March.....	2,610	1,890	1,077	813	720
April ²	2,614	1,864	1,024	840	750

¹ Includes public residential construction.
² Preliminary estimates.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

NEW HOUSING STARTS

In March, new housing starts rose by about 16 percent. They were 21 percent below those of the same month last year, although higher than any other March on record.



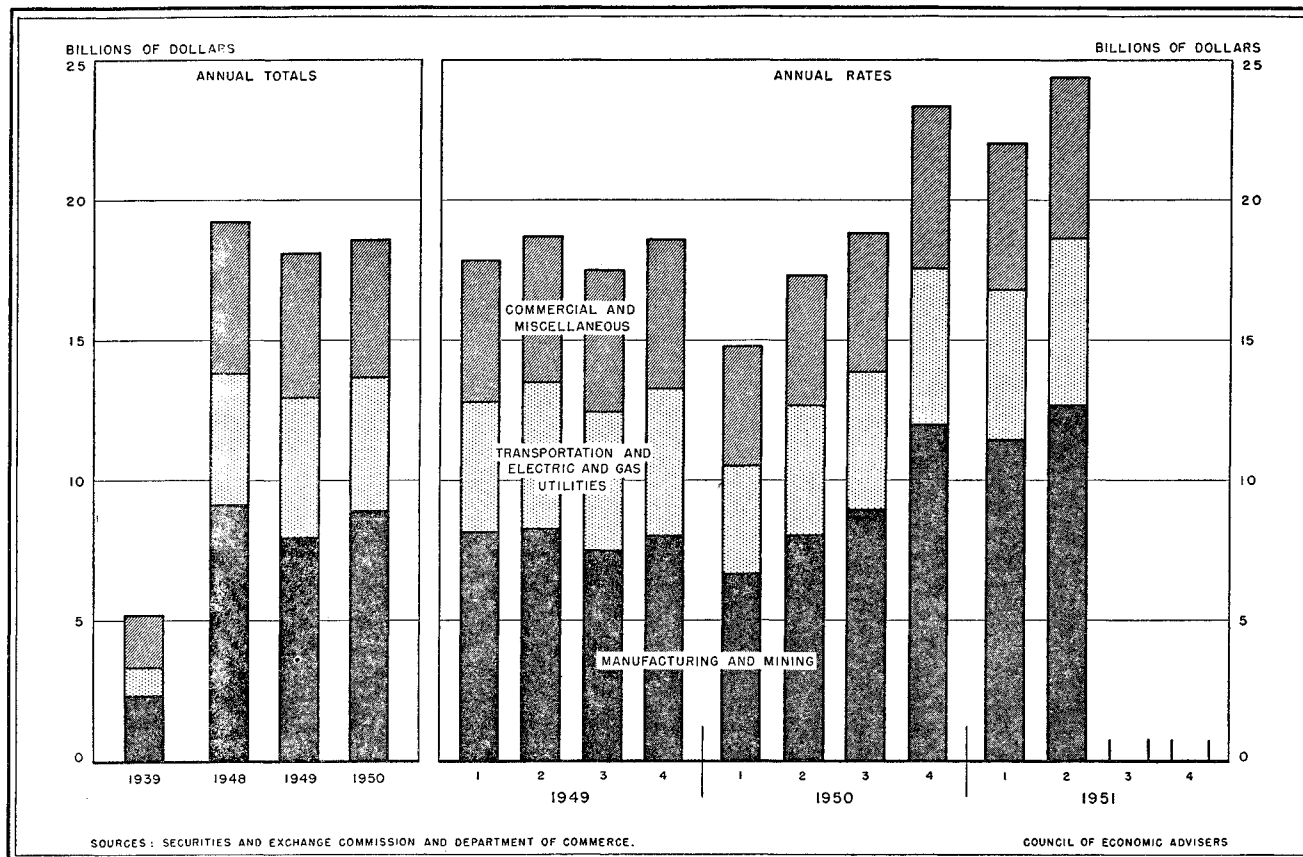
Month	New nonfarm units started				
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
January.....	39,300	53,500	50,000	78,700	¹ 87,000
February.....	42,800	50,100	50,400	82,900	¹ 80,000
March.....	56,000	76,400	69,400	117,300	¹ 93,000
April.....	67,100	99,500	88,300	133,400	-----
May.....	72,900	100,300	95,400	149,100	-----
June.....	77,200	97,800	95,500	144,300	-----
July.....	81,100	95,000	96,100	144,400	-----
August.....	86,300	86,700	99,000	141,900	-----
September.....	93,800	82,300	102,900	120,600	-----
October.....	94,000	73,400	104,300	102,500	-----
November.....	79,700	63,700	95,500	87,300	-----
December.....	58,800	52,900	78,300	93,600	-----
Total.....	849,000	931,600	1,025,100	1,396,000	-----
Monthly average.....	70,750	77,600	85,425	116,300	-----

¹ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Nonfarm plant and equipment expenditures in the fourth quarter of 1950 were at a record level, 26 percent above those of a year earlier. For manufacturing facilities alone, the increase was 52 percent. There was probably a less than normal seasonal decline in the first quarter of 1951. Business plans to invest at a still higher rate during the rest of this year.



[Millions of dollars, annual rates, not adjusted for seasonal variation]

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	630	1,480
1948-----	19,230	8,340	800	1,320	700	2,680	5,390
1949-----	18,120	7,250	740	1,350	520	3,140	5,120
1950-----	18,560	8,220	680	1,140	440	3,170	4,920
1951 ³ -----	23,910	11,920	890	1,520	620	3,540	5,410
1949: First quarter-----	17,840	7,400	760	1,440	520	2,720	5,040
Second quarter-----	18,640	7,520	760	1,520	560	3,120	5,160
Third quarter-----	17,480	6,760	720	1,240	560	3,160	5,040
Fourth quarter-----	18,520	7,320	720	1,200	480	3,560	5,280
1950: First quarter-----	14,800	6,080	600	920	320	2,600	4,240
Second quarter-----	17,320	7,440	640	1,200	360	3,040	4,640
Third quarter-----	18,800	8,200	720	1,160	480	3,280	4,960
Fourth quarter-----	23,320	11,160	800	1,280	560	3,760	5,760
1951: First quarter ³ -----	22,000	10,680	760	1,440	600	3,320	5,200
Second quarter ³ -----	24,320	11,840	840	1,720	560	3,600	5,800
Second half ³ -----	24,660	12,580	980	1,460	660	3,620	5,320

¹ Excludes agriculture.

² Commercial and miscellaneous composed of trade, service, finance, and communication.

³ Estimates for 1951 based on anticipated capital expenditure of business as reported in a survey made during the first quarter of this year.

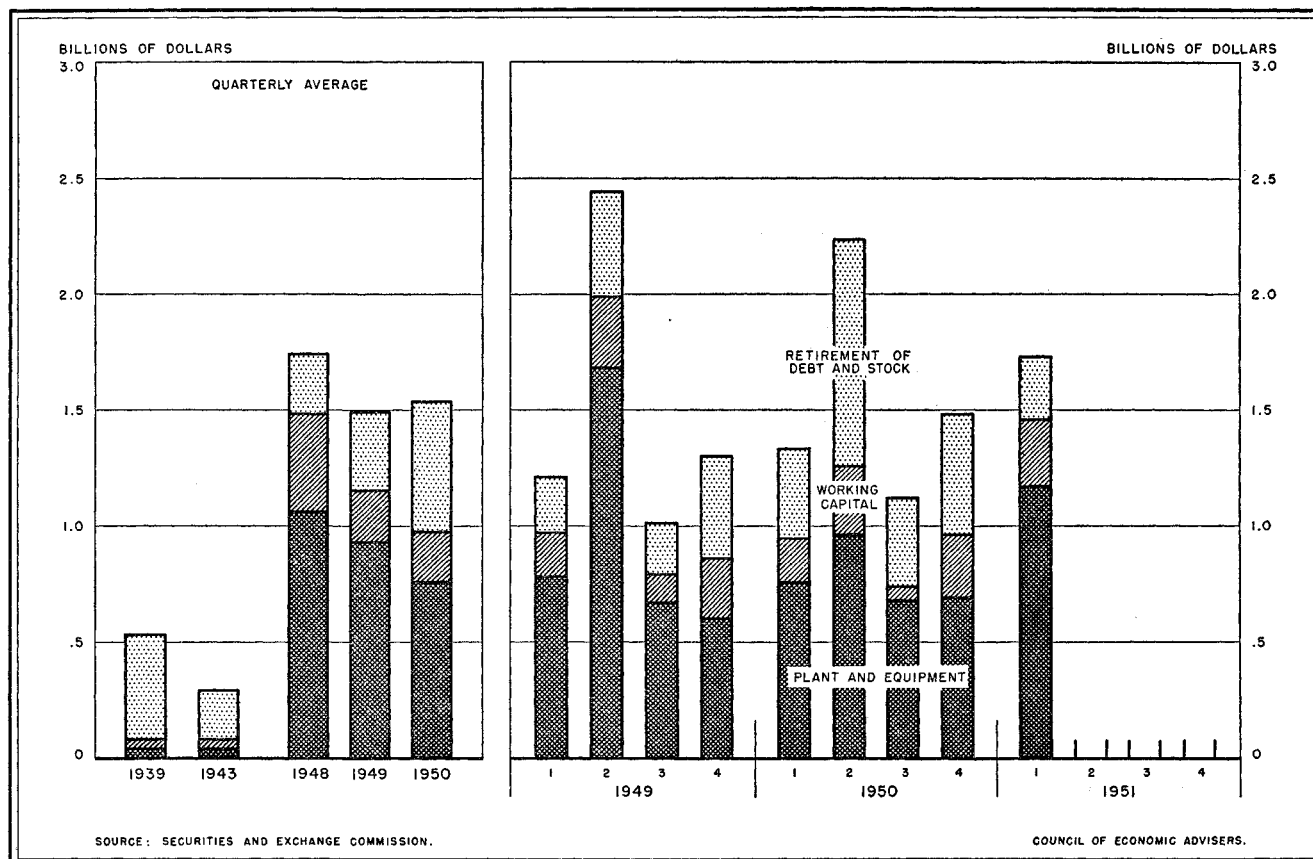
NOTE.—These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the latter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense. Figures for 1939-44 are Federal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

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because annual rates are based on quarterly figures 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 1951, net proceeds from new security issues again increased sharply. Over \$1 billion of this amount was used for plant expansion, a postwar record level for a first quarter.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Estimated net proceeds	Proposed uses of net proceeds			
		New money			Retirement of debt and stock ¹
		Total	Plant and equipment	Working capital	
1939 quarterly average.....	529	81	43	39	448
1943 quarterly average.....	287	77	35	42	210
1946 quarterly average.....	1,689	820	529	291	869
1947 quarterly average.....	1,617	1,148	852	296	469
1948 quarterly average.....	1,740	1,482	1,055	427	258
1949 quarterly average.....	1,490	1,152	931	220	338
1950 quarterly average.....	1,535	971	741	230	564
1948: Fourth quarter.....	2,051	1,870	1,469	401	182
1949: First quarter.....	1,210	970	784	186	240
Second quarter.....	2,441	1,986	1,675	312	456
Third quarter.....	1,009	789	669	120	219
Fourth quarter.....	1,299	862	596	265	438
1950: First quarter.....	1,325	941	759	182	384
Second quarter.....	2,222	1,251	948	302	971
Third quarter.....	1,110	736	571	165	374
Fourth quarter.....	1,482	957	687	269	525
1951: First quarter ²	1,730	1,461	1,167	293	270

¹ Includes small amount for other purposes.

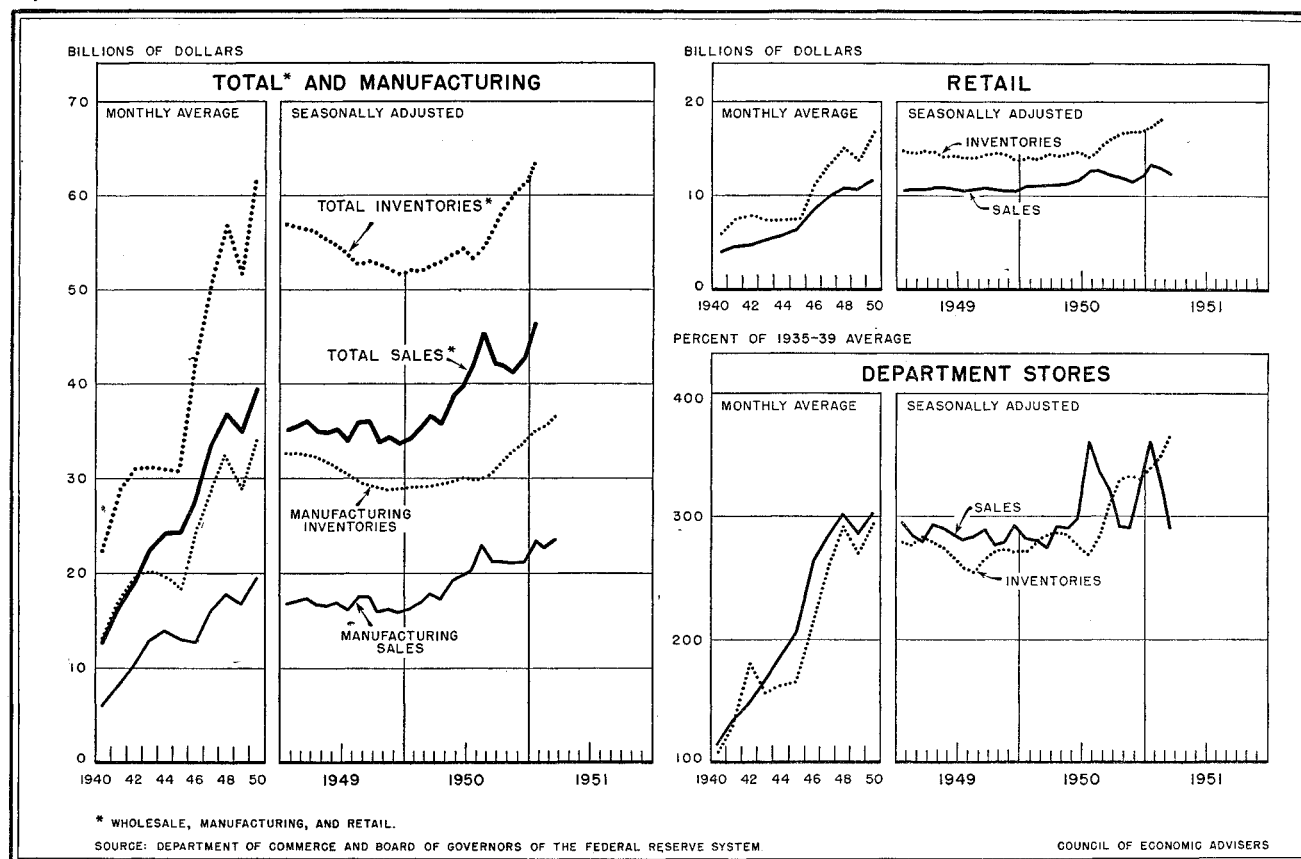
² Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

INVENTORIES AND SALES

Manufacturers' inventories and sales increased during March, while total retail sales fell sharply below high January and February levels but stayed above December. Department store sales dropped back to the level of last October and November, while inventories reached a postwar peak. All of these changes are based on seasonally adjusted data.



Period	Total business ¹		Retail		Manufacturing			Department stores	
	Inven- tories ²	Sales ³	Inven- tories ²	Sales ³	Inven- tories ²	Sales ³	New orders	Inven- tories ⁵	Sales ⁵
	Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted							(millions of dollars) ⁴	1935-39= 100, season- ally adjusted
1939 -----	20, 172	11, 109	5, 532	3, 504	11, 465	5, 100	(⁶)	102	106
1943 -----	31, 143	22, 372	7, 361	5, 277	20, 098	12, 822	(⁶)	155	168
1945 -----	30, 571	24, 181	7, 543	6, 315	18, 390	12, 883	(⁶)	166	207
1946 -----	42, 389	27, 559	11, 226	8, 358	24, 498	12, 617	13, 694	213	264
1947 -----	50, 794	33, 571	13, 221	9, 909	28, 920	15, 918	15, 622	255	286
1948 -----	56, 756	37, 023	14, 969	10, 837	32, 276	17, 811	17, 504	291	302
1949 -----	51, 594	34, 886	13, 698	10, 682	28, 865	16, 666	16, 102	270	286
1950 -----	61, 569	39, 611	16, 754	11, 670	34, 061	19, 605	21, 099	294	303
1950: February -----	51, 825	35, 305	13, 800	11, 101	28, 990	16, 877	16, 861	278	280
March -----	52, 484	36, 599	14, 282	11, 125	29, 073	17, 797	18, 810	285	274
April -----	52, 906	35, 645	14, 138	11, 080	29, 384	17, 206	17, 182	286	292
May -----	53, 553	38, 652	14, 416	11, 327	29, 659	19, 309	19, 097	285	290
June -----	54, 241	39, 896	14, 720	11, 699	30, 028	19, 838	20, 666	276	298
July -----	53, 243	41, 982	14, 125	12, 700	29, 830	20, 269	22, 223	269	362
August -----	54, 496	45, 275	15, 076	12, 682	29, 858	22, 956	27, 323	284	335
September -----	56, 404	42, 142	15, 793	12, 133	30, 732	21, 154	23, 760	309	320
October -----	58, 660	41, 821	16, 697	11, 759	31, 770	21, 246	24, 704	329	291
November -----	60, 269	41, 318	16, 787	11, 387	33, 007	21, 112	22, 371	332	290
December -----	61, 569	42, 472	16, 754	12, 194	34, 061	21, 284	23, 160	329	325
1951: January ⁷ -----	63, 380	46, 693	17, 422	13, 307	34, 928	23, 204	27, 699	338	362
February ⁷ -----	64, 470	45, 404	17, 817	13, 075	35, 488	22, 666	25, 477	349	326
March ⁷ -----	66, 184	45, 096	18, 400	12, 325	36, 400	23, 400	29, 300	366	290

¹ Total business includes manufacturing, retail, and wholesale (not shown separately in this table).

² Book value, end of period.

³ Monthly average for year and total for month.

⁴ Data for new orders not adjusted for seasonal variation.

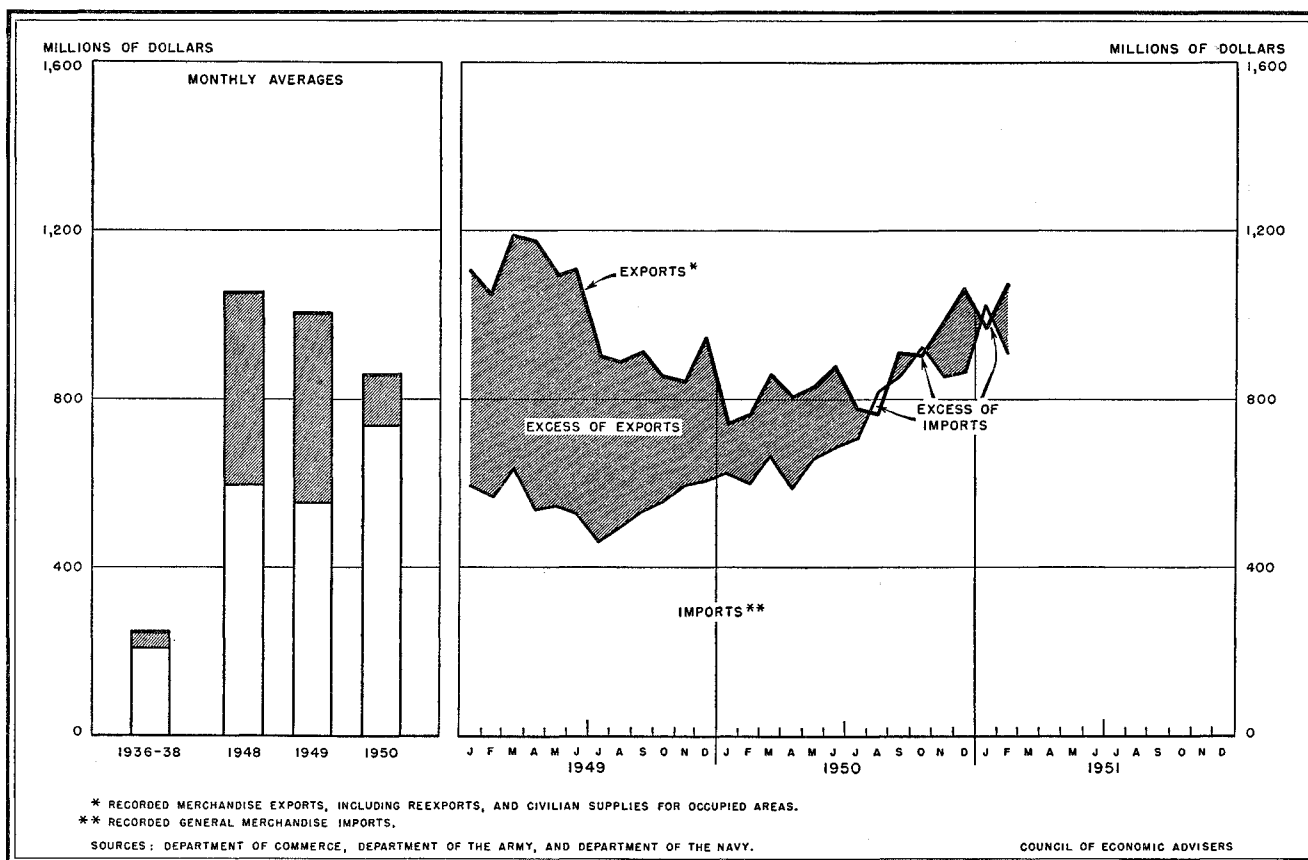
⁵ Indexes computed from data on retail value of sales for month and retail book value of inventories, end of period.

⁶ Not available.

⁷ Preliminary estimates.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

In February, merchandise exports rose 10 percent to the highest figure since June 1949. With an 11 percent decline in imports, our foreign trade showed an export surplus of \$166 million.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Exports ¹	Imports ²	Excess of exports (+), imports (-)
1936-38 monthly average.....	247	207	+40
1943 monthly average.....	1,080	282	+798
1946 monthly average.....	849	410	+439
1947 monthly average.....	1,278	480	+799
1948 monthly average.....	1,054	594	+461
1949 monthly average.....	1,003	552	+451
1950 monthly average.....	856	737	+119
1950: February.....	764	600	+164
March.....	860	665	+196
April.....	803	585	+218
May.....	829	659	+170
June.....	878	687	+191
July.....	779	708	+70
August.....	762	820	-58
September.....	911	859	+52
October.....	906	922	-17
November.....	976	852	+124
December.....	1,064	864	+200
1951: January.....	973	1,021	-48
February.....	1,073	907	+166

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

² Recorded general merchandise imports.

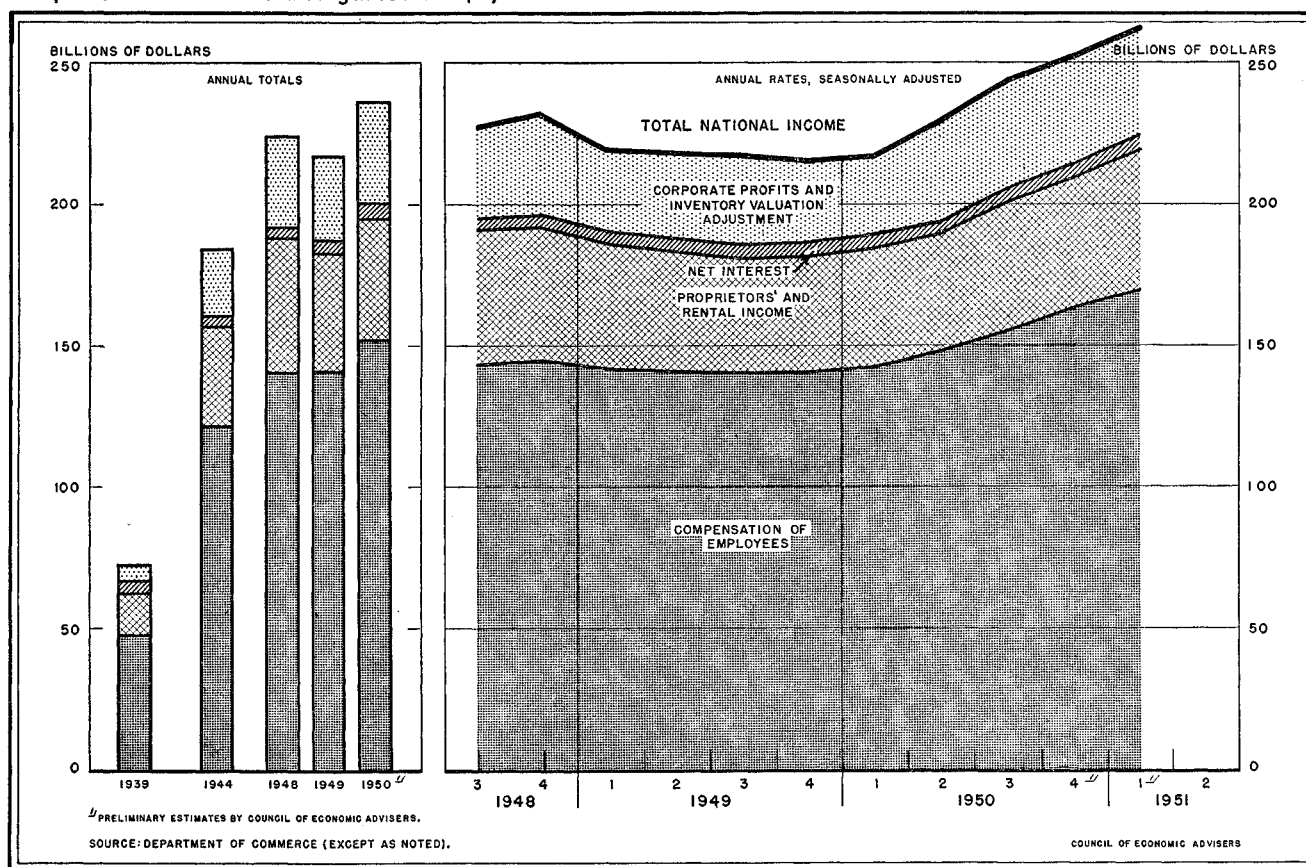
NOTE: Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

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

PURCHASING POWER

NATIONAL INCOME

Compensation of employees rose from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$163 billion in the fourth quarter of 1950 to \$170 billion in the first quarter of this year. Most of the rise reflected increases in wage rates. Farm, business, and professional income also gained sharply.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total national income	Compensation of employees	Proprietors' (business, professional, farm) and rental income	Net interest	Corporate profits and inventory valuation adjustment		
					Total	Profits before taxes	Inventory valuation adjustment
1939.....	72.5	47.8	14.7	4.2	5.8	6.5	-0.7
1944.....	183.8	121.2	35.5	3.1	24.0	24.3	-0.3
1946.....	180.3	117.1	42.0	2.9	18.3	23.5	-5.2
1947.....	198.7	128.0	42.4	3.5	24.7	30.5	-5.8
1948.....	223.5	140.2	47.3	4.1	31.8	33.9	-2.0
1949.....	216.8	140.6	41.7	4.7	29.9	27.6	+2.2
1950.....	¹ 236.2	152.2	43.6	5.0	¹ 35.4	¹ 40.5	-5.1
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted							
1949: First quarter.....	218.8	141.5	43.8	4.6	28.8	28.3	+0.5
Second quarter.....	217.8	140.5	42.2	4.7	30.4	26.4	+3.9
Third quarter.....	216.7	140.0	40.1	4.8	31.8	28.2	+3.7
Fourth quarter.....	214.2	140.2	40.7	4.8	28.4	27.6	+0.8
1950: First quarter.....	216.9	142.3	41.5	5.0	28.1	29.2	-1.0
Second quarter.....	229.1	147.9	41.2	5.0	35.0	37.4	-2.4
Third quarter.....	244.0	155.3	45.5	5.0	38.1	46.4	-8.3
Fourth quarter.....	¹ 254.6	162.7	46.3	5.1	¹ 40.5	¹ 49.0	-8.5
1951: First quarter ¹	265.0	165.8	49.5	5.2	40.5	50.0	-9.5

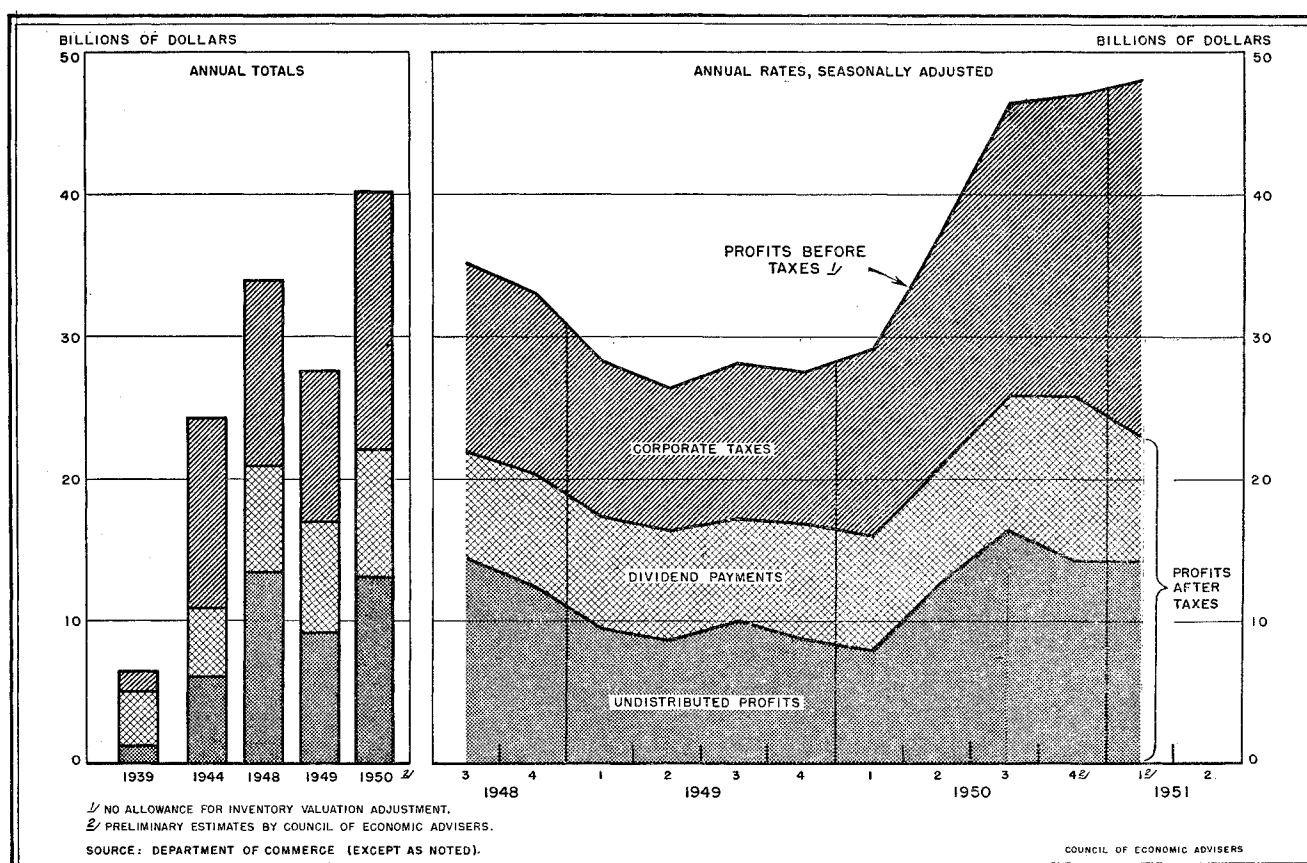
¹ Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers. Revised data became available after chart was prepared.

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

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted)

CORPORATE PROFITS

Preliminary indications are that corporate profits before taxes in the first quarter of 1951 reached new records.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Corporate profits before taxes	Corporate tax liability	Corporate profits after taxes		
			Total	Dividend payments	Undistributed profits
1939	6.5	1.5	5.0	3.8	1.2
1944	24.3	13.5	10.8	4.7	6.1
1946	23.5	9.6	13.9	5.8	8.1
1947	30.5	11.9	18.5	6.6	12.0
1948	33.9	13.0	20.9	7.5	13.4
1949	27.6	10.6	17.0	7.8	9.2
1950 ¹	40.5	18.1	22.4	9.4	13.1
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1949: First quarter	28.3	10.9	17.4	7.9	9.5
Second quarter	26.4	10.0	16.4	7.7	8.7
Third quarter	28.2	10.8	17.3	7.4	10.0
Fourth quarter	27.6	10.6	16.9	8.2	8.7
1950: First quarter	29.2	13.2	16.0	8.1	7.9
Second quarter	37.4	16.5	20.9	8.2	12.7
Third quarter	46.4	20.6	25.8	9.3	16.5
Fourth quarter ¹	49.0	22.0	27.0	11.5	15.5
1951: First quarter ¹	50.0	26.0	24.0	8.8	15.2

¹ Estimates based on incomplete data; fourth quarter 1950 and first quarter 1951 by Council of Economic Advisers. Revised data became available after chart was prepared.

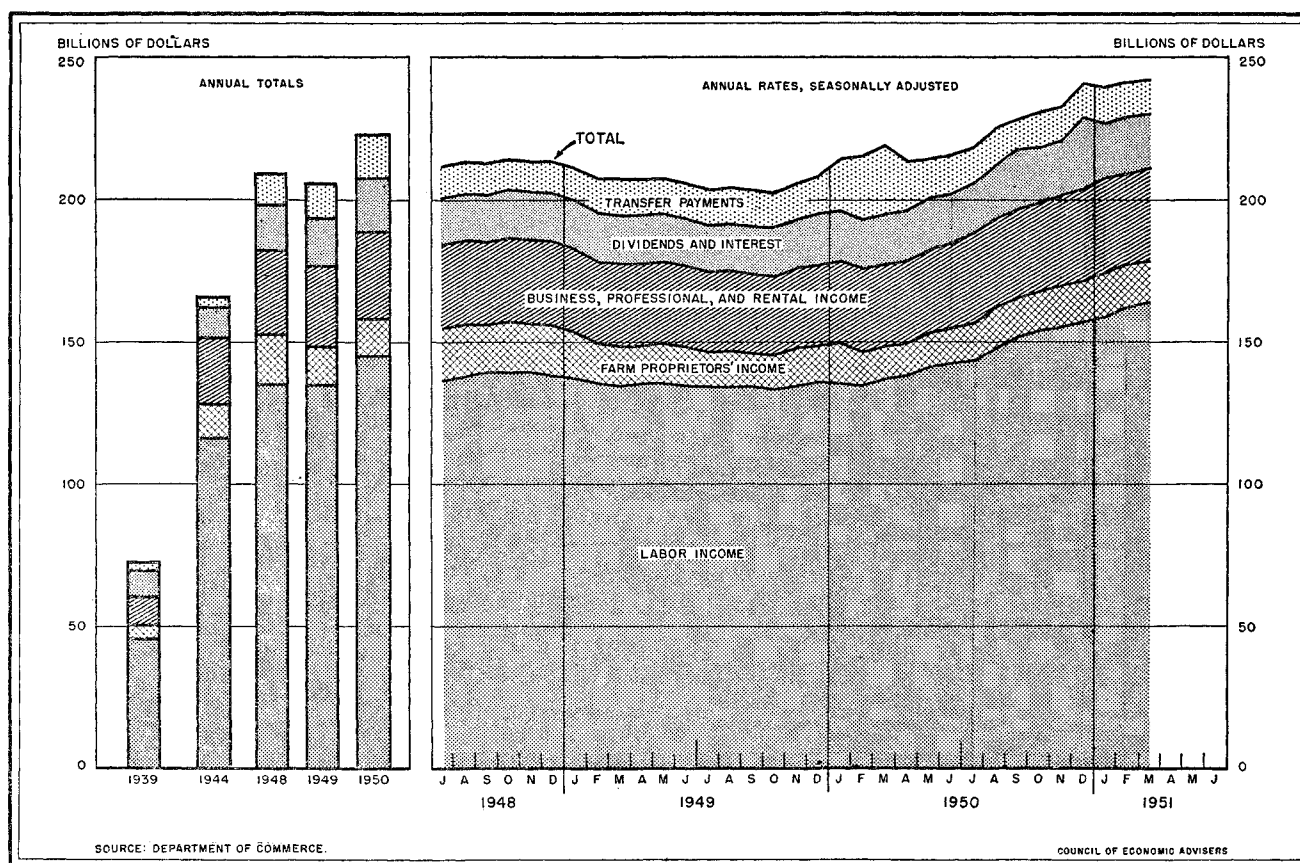
NOTE.—No allowance has been made for inventory valuation adjustment. See p. 22 for profits before taxes and inventory valuation adjustment.

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

PERSONAL INCOME

Personal income advanced at an annual rate of over a billion dollars between February and March. Increases in wages and salaries were partially offset by a decline in business income due to a drop in retail sales.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total personal income	Labor income (salaries, wages, and other labor income)	Proprietors' income		Dividends and personal interest	Transfer payments
			Farm	Business, professional, and rental income		
1939.....	72.6	45.7	4.5	10.2	9.2	3.0
1944.....	165.9	116.2	11.8	23.7	10.6	3.6
1947.....	191.0	122.3	15.6	26.8	14.5	11.8
1948.....	209.5	134.9	17.7	29.6	16.1	11.2
1949.....	206.1	134.9	13.4	28.3	17.2	12.3
1950.....	223.2	145.4	13.1	30.5	19.2	¹ 15.0
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted						
1950: February.....	215.4	134.5	12.3	28.7	17.7	22.2
March.....	219.3	136.9	11.4	28.8	18.0	24.2
April.....	213.8	138.6	11.0	28.8	18.2	17.2
May.....	214.5	141.1	12.1	29.4	17.8	14.1
June.....	217.1	143.6	12.1	30.2	17.8	13.4
July.....	220.7	145.1	13.6	31.9	17.8	12.3
August.....	225.4	148.9	13.7	32.4	18.4	12.0
September.....	228.7	151.2	13.3	31.7	21.1	11.4
October.....	231.1	154.1	13.9	31.8	19.2	12.1
November.....	232.9	155.5	14.6	31.6	19.4	11.8
December.....	241.0	157.7	14.7	32.3	24.7	11.6
1951: January.....	240.9	160.2	15.5	33.8	19.0	12.4
February.....	241.3	162.2	14.5	33.2	19.3	12.1
March ²	242.5	163.9	14.5	32.6	19.5	12.0

¹ Includes \$2.7 billion National Service Life Insurance dividend, most of which was paid in the first half of the year.

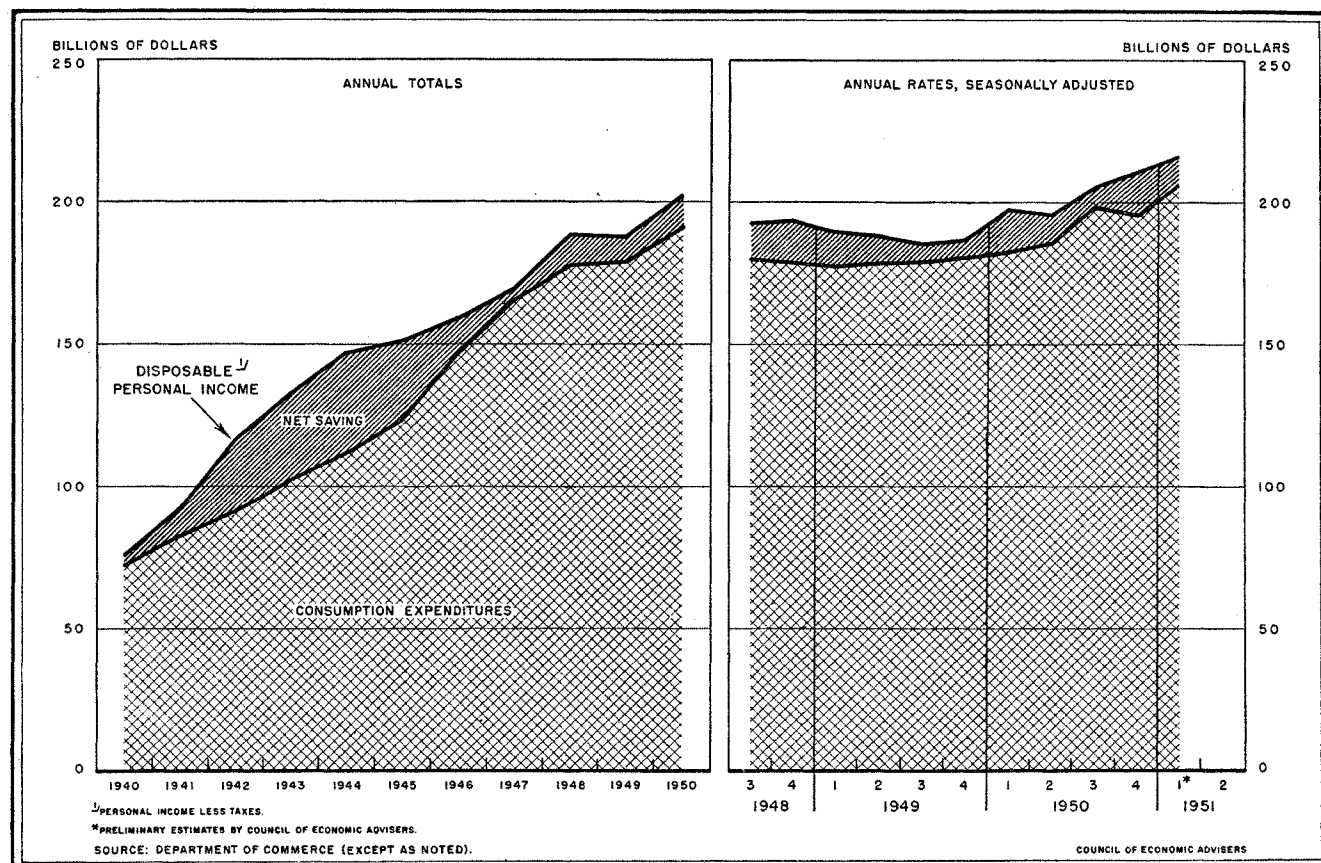
² Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

The rate of personal saving dropped in the first quarter as expenditures rose more than disposable income.



Period	Disposable personal income ¹	Less: Personal consumption expenditures	Equals: Personal net saving	Net saving as percent of disposable income
Billions of dollars				
1939.....	70.2	67.5	2.7	3.8
1941.....	92.0	82.3	9.8	10.7
1942.....	116.7	91.2	25.6	21.9
1944.....	147.0	111.6	35.4	24.1
1946.....	158.9	146.9	12.0	7.6
1947.....	169.5	165.6	3.9	2.3
1948.....	188.4	177.4	10.9	5.8
1949.....	187.4	178.8	8.6	4.6
1950.....	202.7	190.8	11.9	5.9
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted				
1949: First quarter.....	189.9	177.4	12.5	6.6
Second quarter.....	188.2	178.4	9.8	5.2
Third quarter.....	185.1	179.0	6.2	3.3
Fourth quarter.....	186.8	180.6	6.2	3.3
1950: First quarter.....	197.4	182.6	14.8	7.5
Second quarter.....	195.6	185.8	9.8	5.0
Third quarter.....	204.6	198.9	5.7	2.8
Fourth quarter.....	211.6	195.8	15.8	7.5
1951: First quarter ²	216.2	206.0	10.2	4.7

¹ Income less taxes.

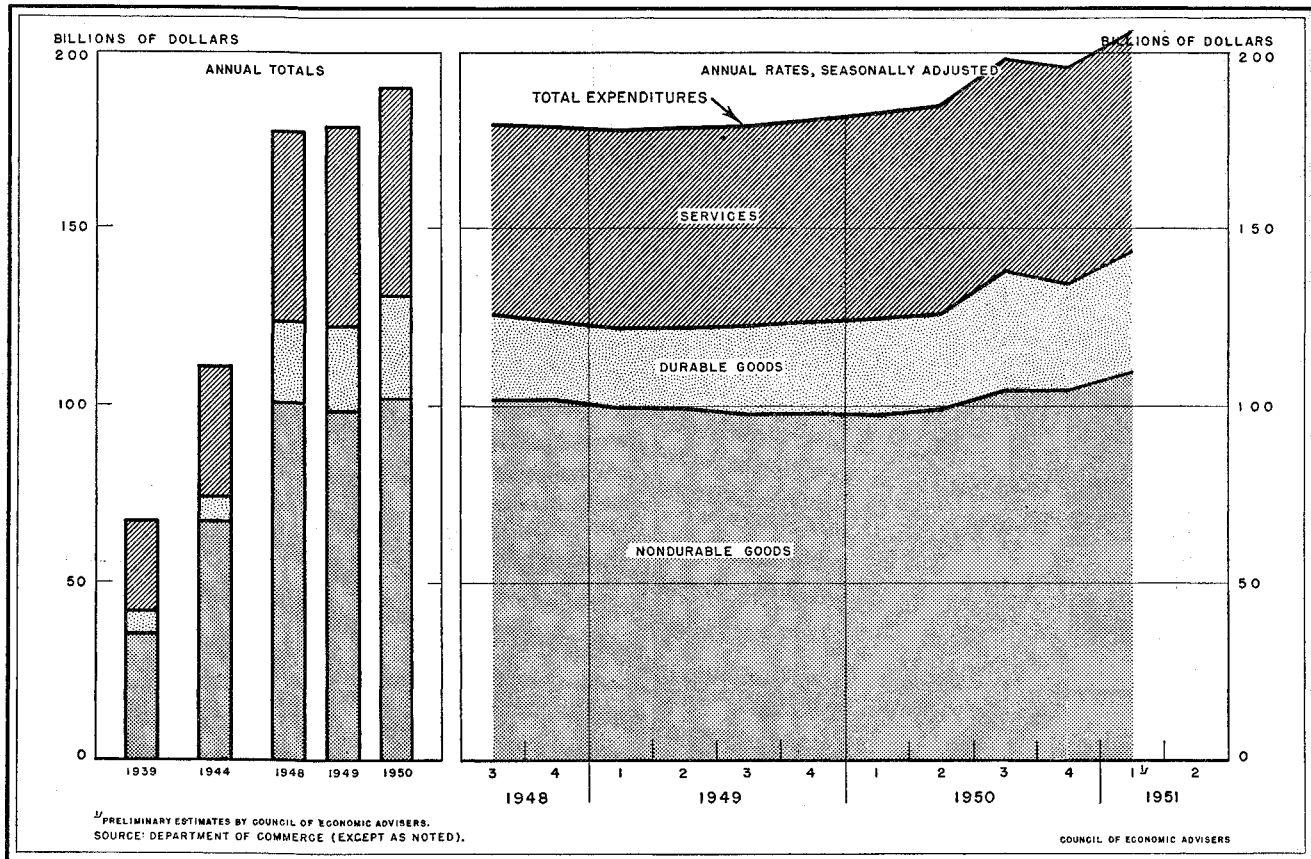
² Estimates based on incomplete data, by Council of Economic Advisers.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. See note on p. 2.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

Personal consumption expenditures of \$206 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) were \$9 billion more than in the previous quarter. Most of the increase reflected higher prices. Expenditures for durable goods equaled their peak level of the third quarter of 1950 while those for nondurable goods exceeded theirs.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Personal consumption expenditures			
	Total	Nondurable goods	Durable goods	Services
1939.....	67.5	35.3	6.7	25.5
1944.....	111.6	67.1	7.1	37.4
1946.....	146.9	85.8	16.6	44.5
1947.....	165.6	95.1	21.4	49.1
1948.....	177.4	100.9	22.9	53.7
1949.....	178.8	98.5	23.8	56.4
1950.....	190.8	101.6	29.2	59.9
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted				
1949: First quarter.....	177.4	99.4	22.4	55.6
Second quarter.....	178.4	99.2	23.0	56.2
Third quarter.....	179.0	97.6	24.7	56.6
Fourth quarter.....	180.6	97.9	25.3	57.4
1950: First quarter.....	182.6	97.9	26.4	58.3
Second quarter.....	185.8	99.9	26.5	59.5
Third quarter.....	198.9	104.5	34.0	60.4
Fourth quarter.....	195.8	104.3	30.0	61.5
1951: First quarter ¹	206.0	109.5	34.0	62.5

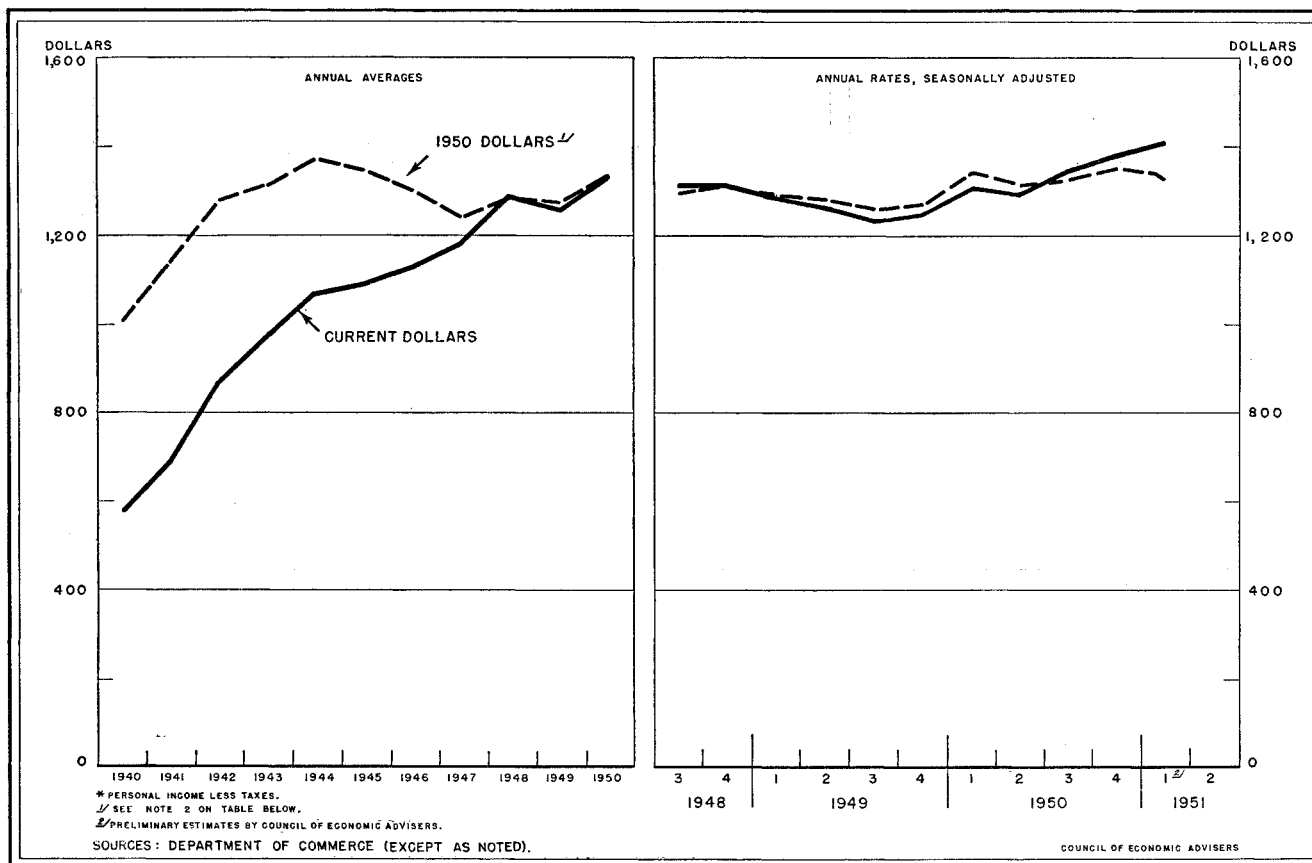
¹ Estimates based on incomplete data by Council of Economic Advisers.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. See note on p. 2.

Source: Department of Commerce.

PER CAPITA DISPOSABLE INCOME

Per capita disposable income increased in the first quarter but the quarterly gain dropped below that of the previous two quarters, as higher income taxes became fully effective. In terms of the purchasing power of the 1950 dollar, there was a decline from the fourth quarter level.



Period	Total disposable personal income (billions of dollars) ¹		Per capita disposable personal income (dollars) ¹		Population (thousands) ³
	Current prices	1950 prices ²	Current prices	1950 prices ²	
1939.....	70.2	124.7	536	953	130,880
1941.....	92.0	152.3	690	1,142	133,377
1942.....	116.7	172.4	866	1,279	134,831
1944.....	147.0	189.9	1,062	1,372	138,390
1946.....	158.9	183.9	1,124	1,301	141,398
1947.....	169.5	178.8	1,176	1,241	144,129
1948.....	188.4	188.6	1,285	1,286	146,621
1949.....	187.4	190.1	1,256	1,275	149,149
1950.....	202.7	202.7	1,336	1,336	151,689
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1949: First quarter.....	189.9	191.4	1,281	1,291	148,282
Second quarter.....	188.2	190.7	1,264	1,281	148,862
Third quarter.....	185.1	188.3	1,238	1,259	149,522
Fourth quarter.....	186.8	190.8	1,243	1,270	150,234
1950: First quarter.....	197.4	202.3	1,309	1,341	150,847
Second quarter.....	195.6	198.8	1,292	1,313	151,390
Third quarter.....	204.6	201.8	1,345	1,327	152,068
Fourth quarter.....	211.6	206.4	1,385	1,351	152,774
1951: First quarter ⁴	216.2	204.5	1,410	1,333	153,385

¹ Income less taxes.

² Dollar estimates in current prices divided by the price index of personal consumption expenditures. This price index was based on the Department of Commerce data, shifted from 1939 base.

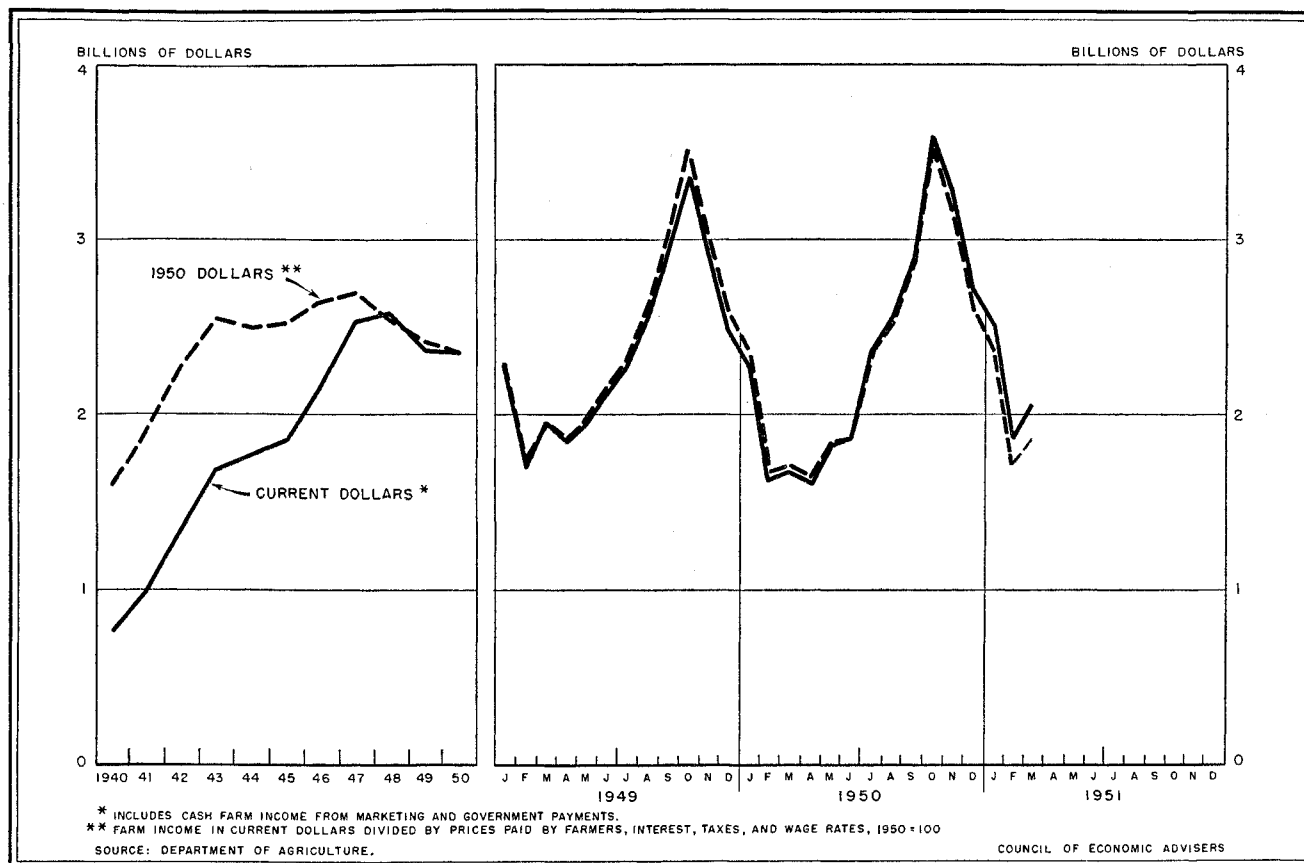
³ Provisional intercensal estimates of the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas, taking into account the final 1950 Census total population count. Annual data as of July 1; quarterly data centered in the middle of the period, interpolated from monthly figures.

⁴ Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

FARM INCOME

A rise of almost \$200 million in March brought farm income 23 percent over the March 1950 level. During this period prices paid by farmers went up over 10 percent.



Period	Farm income (millions of current dollars) ¹	Prices paid by farmers (incl. interest, taxes, and wage rates) 1950=100 ²	Farm income (millions of 1950 dollars) ³
1939 monthly average.....	724	48	1,508
1941 monthly average.....	981	52	1,887
1944 monthly average.....	1,764	71	2,484
1946 monthly average.....	2,136	81	2,637
1947 monthly average.....	2,527	94	2,688
1948 monthly average.....	2,567	101	2,542
1949 monthly average.....	2,359	98	2,407
1950 monthly average.....	2,349	100	2,349
1950: February.....	1,614	97	1,664
March.....	1,674	98	1,708
April.....	1,594	98	1,627
May.....	1,819	99	1,837
June.....	1,859	100	1,859
July.....	2,356	100	2,356
August.....	2,551	101	2,526
September.....	2,913	102	2,856
October.....	3,584	102	3,514
November.....	3,277	103	3,182
December.....	2,692	104	2,588
1951: January.....	2,499	106	2,358
February ⁴	1,858	108	1,720
March ⁴	2,056	109	1,886

¹ Includes cash farm income from marketings and Government payments.

² Converted from the reported base, 1910-14=100, to the base 1950=100.

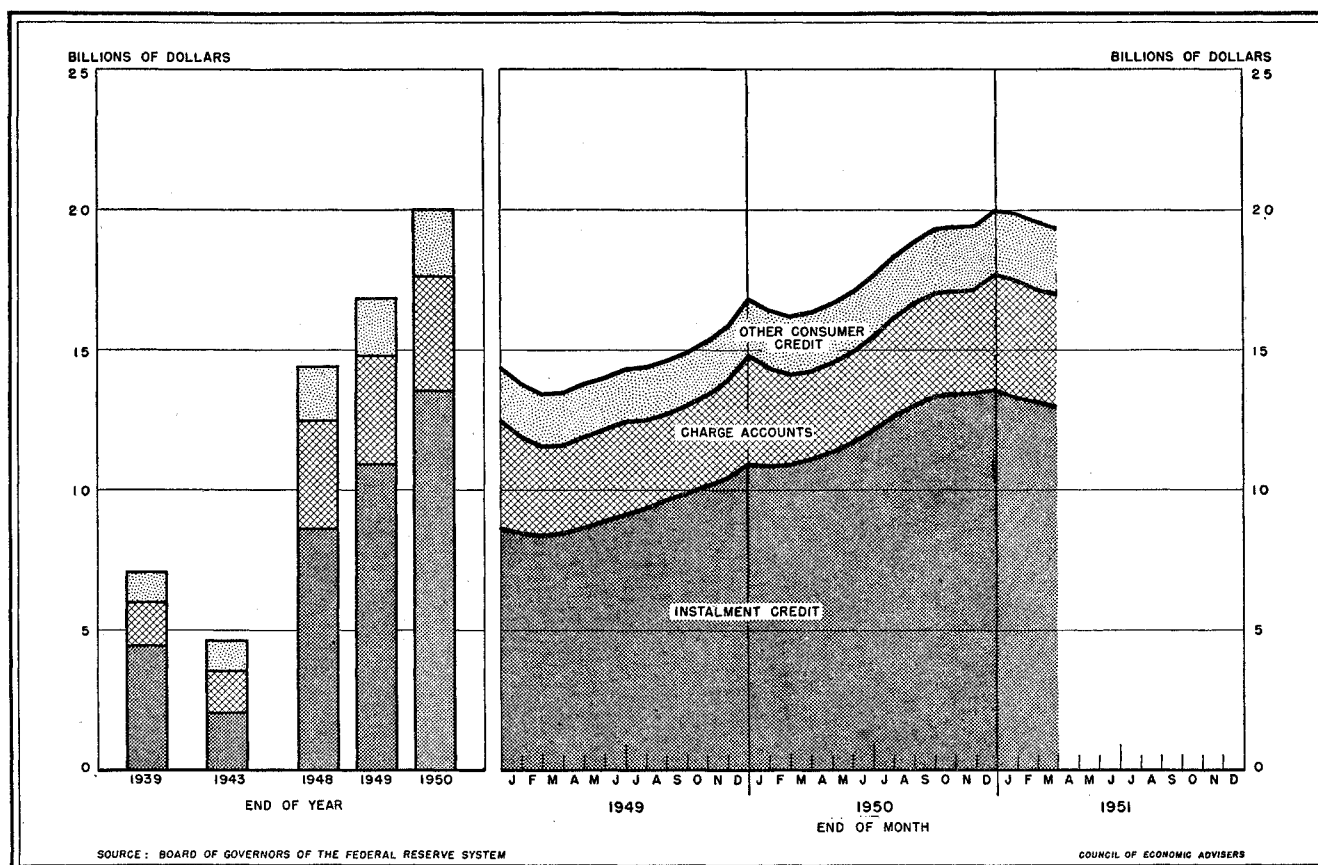
³ Farm income in current dollars divided by prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes, and wage rates, 1950=100.

⁴ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

CONSUMER CREDIT

Consumer credit outstanding declined about \$160 million during March. Instalment credit fell almost \$100 million, to a level nearly \$500 million below the all-time high of December 1950.



[Millions of dollars]

End of period	Total consumer credit outstanding	Instalment credit			Charge accounts	Other consumer credit ¹
		Total	Automobile sale credit	Other sale credit and loans		
1939.....	7,031	4,424	1,267	3,157	1,544	1,063
1943.....	4,600	2,001	175	1,826	1,498	1,101
1946.....	4,677	4,000	544	3,456	3,054	1,623
1947.....	11,862	6,434	1,151	5,283	3,612	1,816
1948.....	14,366	8,600	1,961	6,639	3,854	1,912
1949.....	16,809	10,890	3,144	7,746	3,909	2,010
1950.....	20,098	13,460	4,126	9,334	4,239	2,399
1950: February.....	16,159	10,884	3,256	7,628	3,233	2,042
March.....	16,338	11,077	3,355	7,722	3,211	2,050
April.....	16,639	11,322	3,470	7,852	3,241	2,076
May.....	17,077	11,667	3,600	8,067	3,290	2,120
June.....	17,651	12,105	3,790	8,315	3,392	2,154
July.....	18,295	12,598	3,994	8,604	3,527	2,170
August.....	18,842	13,009	4,107	8,902	3,636	2,197
September.....	19,315	13,337	4,213	9,124	3,741	2,237
October.....	19,398	13,389	4,227	9,162	3,703	2,306
November.....	19,405	13,306	4,175	9,131	3,739	2,360
December.....	20,098	13,460	4,126	9,334	4,239	2,399
1951: January.....	19,942	13,257	4,056	9,201	4,248	2,437
February ²	19,536	13,075	3,990	9,085	4,010	2,451
March ²	19,375	12,980	3,942	9,038	3,938	2,457

¹ Includes loans by pawnbrokers, service credit, and single-payment loans under \$3,000 made by commercial banks. The single-payment loan item was revised in November to exclude loans over \$3,000. See Federal Reserve Bulletin for November 1950, pages 1465-6.

² Preliminary estimates.

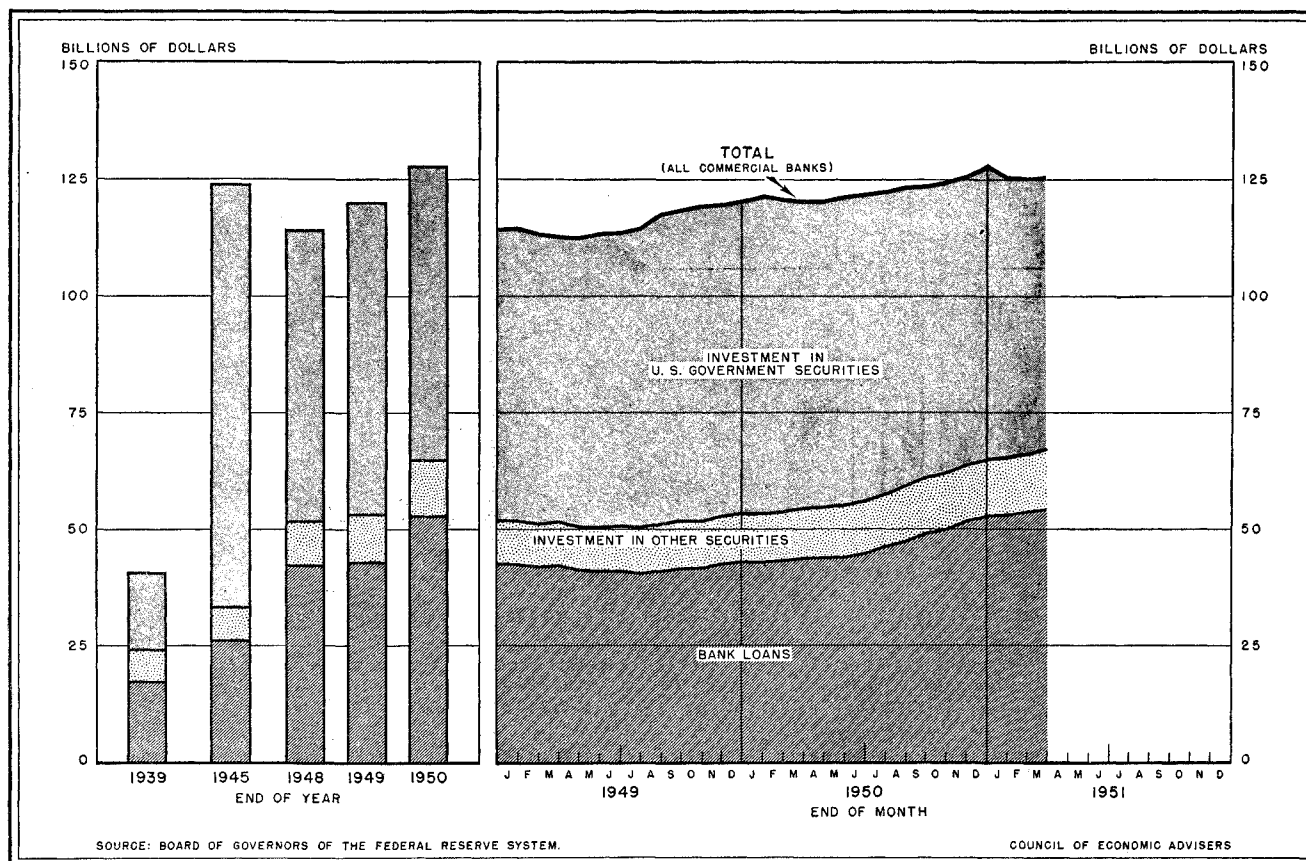
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

MONEY, BANKING, AND FEDERAL FINANCE

BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

Bank loans expanded \$900 million during March. The growth of loans has been uninterrupted since January 1950 and has averaged almost \$800 million a month.



[Billions of dollars, all commercial banks]

End of period	Total loans and investments	Bank loans	Investments		
			Total	U. S. Government securities	Other securities
1939.....	40.7	17.2	23.4	16.3	7.1
1945.....	124.0	26.1	97.9	90.6	7.3
1947.....	116.3	38.1	78.2	69.2	9.0
1948.....	114.3	42.5	71.8	62.6	9.2
1949.....	120.2	43.0	77.2	67.0	10.2
1950.....	126.7	52.2	74.4	62.0	12.4
1950: February.....	120.6	43.1	77.5	67.1	10.4
March.....	120.3	43.7	76.6	65.8	10.8
April.....	120.3	43.8	76.5	65.5	11.0
May.....	121.2	44.1	77.1	66.1	11.0
June.....	121.8	44.8	77.0	65.8	11.2
July.....	122.3	46.0	76.3	65.0	11.4
August.....	123.3	47.3	76.0	64.2	11.8
September.....	123.6	48.9	74.6	62.5	12.1
October.....	124.4	49.8	74.6	62.5	12.1
November.....	125.4	51.5	73.9	61.7	12.1
December.....	126.7	52.2	74.4	62.0	12.4
1951: January.....	125.0	52.7	72.3	60.0	12.4
February.....	125.0	53.5	71.5	59.1	12.4
March ¹	125.7	54.4	71.3	58.8	12.6

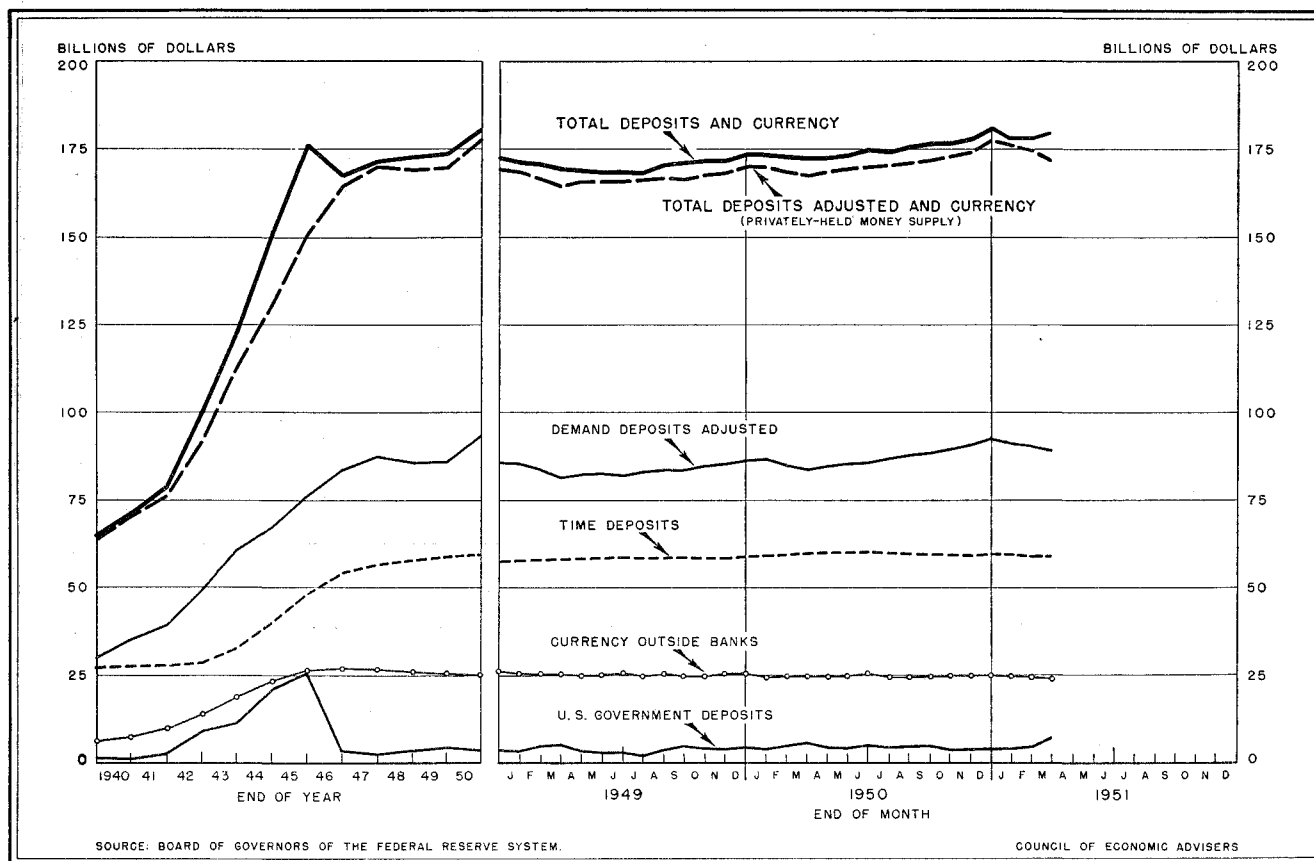
¹ Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

MONEY SUPPLY

The privately held money supply dropped \$1.7 billion during March, as a record excess of Treasury cash receipts shifted funds into Government balance. The decline from the high of December 1950 totals \$4.4 billion.



[Billions of dollars]

End of period	Total deposits and currency	U. S. Government deposits ¹	Deposits adjusted and currency (privately held money supply) ²			
			Total	Currency outside banks	Adjusted demand deposits ³	Time deposits ⁴
1939.....	64.7	1.5	63.3	6.4	29.8	27.1
1945.....	176.4	25.6	150.8	26.5	75.9	48.5
1946.....	167.5	3.5	164.0	26.7	83.3	54.0
1947.....	172.3	2.3	170.0	26.5	87.1	56.4
1948.....	172.7	3.6	169.1	26.1	85.5	57.5
1949.....	173.9	4.1	169.8	25.4	85.8	58.6
1950.....	180.6	3.7	176.9	25.4	92.3	59.2
1950: February.....	172.8	4.6	168.2	24.7	84.5	59.0
March.....	172.4	5.3	167.1	24.6	83.3	59.3
April.....	172.5	4.1	168.4	24.6	84.3	59.5
May.....	173.0	3.8	169.2	24.7	85.0	59.5
June.....	174.7	4.8	170.0	25.2	85.0	59.7
July.....	174.4	4.1	170.2	24.4	86.5	59.4
August.....	175.5	4.5	171.0	24.5	87.4	59.1
September.....	176.3	4.8	171.6	24.5	88.0	59.0
October.....	176.3	3.5	172.8	24.6	89.2	59.0
November.....	177.4	3.5	173.9	24.9	90.3	58.7
December.....	180.6	3.7	176.9	25.4	92.3	59.2
1951: January.....	178.8	3.6	175.2	24.6	91.6	59.0
February.....	178.9	4.7	174.2	24.6	90.6	59.0
March ⁵	179.9	7.4	172.5	24.4	89.0	59.1

¹ Includes U. S. Government deposits at Federal Reserve banks, commercial and savings banks, and U. S. Treasurer's time deposits, open account.

² Includes deposits and currency held by State and local governments.

³ Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U. S. Government, less cash items in process of collection.

⁴ Includes deposits in commercial banks, mutual savings banks, and Postal Savings System, but excludes interbank deposits.

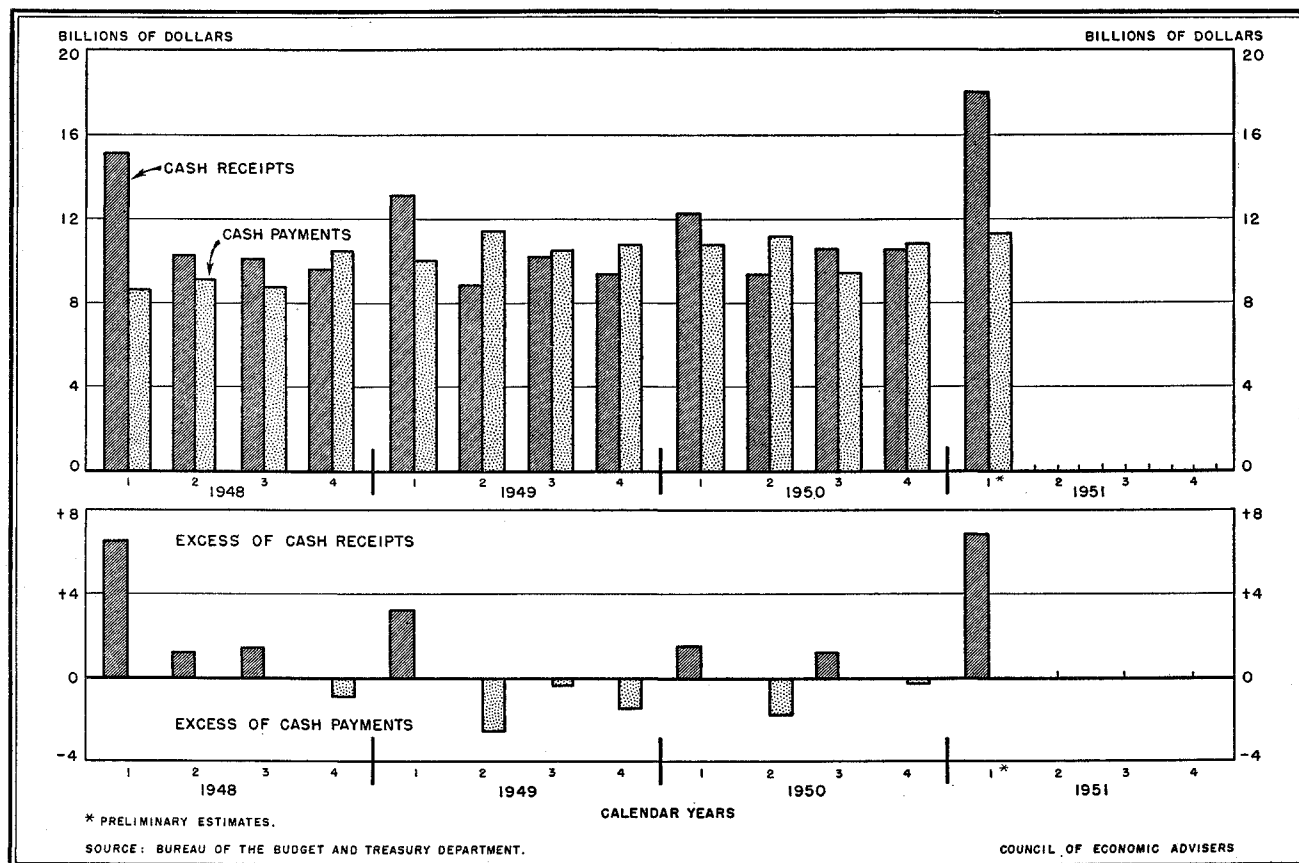
⁵ Preliminary estimates.

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

In the first quarter of 1951, cash receipts from the public exceeded payments by nearly \$6.9 billion. The excess of receipts was greater than that in any previous quarter.



[Millions of dollars]

Calendar year	Federal cash receipts from the public	Federal cash payments to the public	Excess of receipts (+) or payments (—)
Calendar year total:			
1946	41,441	41,399	+42
1947	44,282	38,616	+5,666
1948	44,922	36,897	+8,027
1949	41,346	42,642	-1,295
1950 ¹	42,419	41,969	+450
Quarterly total, not adjusted for seasonal variation:			
1948: First quarter	15,037	8,641	+6,399
1948: Second quarter	10,239	9,033	+1,205
1948: Third quarter	10,085	8,735	+1,349
1948: Fourth quarter	9,560	10,488	-926
1949: First quarter	13,122	9,964	+3,159
1949: Second quarter	8,814	11,389	-2,574
1949: Third quarter	10,143	10,528	-386
1949: Fourth quarter	9,267	10,762	-1,495
1950: First quarter	12,235	10,760	+1,475
1950: Second quarter	9,303	11,105	-1,803
1950: Third quarter	10,494	9,351	+1,143
1950: Fourth quarter	10,387	10,754	-367
1951: First quarter ¹	18,051	11,179	+6,872

¹ Preliminary estimates based on incomplete data.

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

Sources: Treasury Department and Bureau of the Budget.

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