

The Monthly BUSINESS REVIEW

Covering Business and Agricultural Conditions in the Sixth Federal Reserve District

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

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No. 6

There has been no pronounced change in business conditions in the Sixth Federal Reserve District during May. There is apparently continued improvement in the attitude of the public generally toward existing conditions. Wage readjustments, though irregular, are taking place in many lines, and there has been some uneven resumption in cotton and other lines of manufacturing. Eleven reporting cities show substantial increases in the amount of building permits issued for May, 1921, as compared with May, 1920, and ten cities reporting for the same period show comparatively smaller decreases. This activity is attributable principally to the reduction in prices of building material, rather than to reduction in wages.

The wholesale prices indices in this Review show continued declines in the United States and all foreign countries from which figures have been received. The volume of goods sold during May, 1921, by reporting wholesale and retail firms, compares favorably with the volume for May, 1920, when the change in the general price level is taken into consideration.

RETAIL TRADE.

Reports received from twenty-four representative department stores in the Sixth Federal Reserve District for May show little change from conditions in April. The percentage decreases in May, 1921 sales compared with sales for May, 1920, are smaller than those shown by April, 1921 sales,

compared with sales for April of last year, and some further improvement is indicated by the fact that of the twenty-four reports for May, only six show sales smaller than for April.

The percentage decrease in May, 1921 sales, compared with May, 1920, sales by these twenty-four representative department stores is 16.8 per cent. Figures furnished by the same firms show that sales for the first five months of 1921 are only 10.7 per cent lower than for the same period last year.

Stocks on hand at the end of May had decreased 2.7 per cent during the month and were 11.5 per cent less than stocks on hand at the end of May of last year.

The percentage of average stocks on hand at the end of each month, this year, to average monthly sales during the same period, is shown as follows:

January, 1921	549.0 per cent
February, 1921	405.0 per cent
March, 1921	441.9 per cent
April, 1921	428.7 per cent
May, 1921	417.8 per cent

The relation of outstanding orders at the end of each month this year to total purchases during the calendar year 1920 is shown in the following table:

January, 1921	3.0 per cent
February, 1921	6.1 per cent
March, 1921	6.5 per cent
April, 1921	5.1 per cent
May, 1921	4.6 per cent

CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING MAY, 1921

Federal Reserve District No. 6

As Indicated by Reports of Twenty-four Department Stores

	New Orleans	Nash- ville	Albany Georgia	Other Cities	District
1A Percentage of Increase or Decrease in net sales during May, 1921, compared with net sales during May, 1920.....	(4) 12.1	(4) — 14.8	(3) — 28.5	(13) — 22.2	— 16.8
B Percentage of Increase or Decrease in net sales Jan- uary 1 to May 31, 1921, compared with sales during same period of 1920	3.9	— 10.4	— 18.3	— 17.8	— 10.7

2A	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in stocks on hand at end of May, 1921, compared with stocks on hand at end of May, 1920	4.2	— 2.1	— 27.2	— 20.9	— 11.5
B	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in stocks on hand at end of May, 1921, compared with stocks on hand at end of April, 1921	2.6	+ 5.6		— 5.3	— 2.7
3	Percentage of average stocks on hand at end of each month since January 1, 1921, to average monthly sales during same period	—370.8	—404.9	—665.4	—495.9	—417.8
4	Percentage of outstanding orders on May 31, 1921, to total purchases during calendar year, 1920	5.7	— 6.6	— 2.7	— 2.8	— 4.6

Note:—Percentages are shown for individual cities only where three or more stores report. "Other Cities" include reports for May (less than three) from Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon and Savannah, Ga., Birmingham, Ala., Jacksonville, Fla., Alexandria, La., and Knoxville, Tenn.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

Except in the case of wholesale groceries, figures for May sales by reporting wholesale merchants were smaller than their sales for either the preceding month (April, 1921) or for May of last year.

Prices prevailing in the four wholesale lines for which reports have been secured show substantial decreases in every instance. Wholesale prices of dry goods and groceries show greater declines than prices of shoes and hardware.

In hardware and shoes collections were reported poor.

In dry goods and groceries the majority indicated poor collections, especially in the country, although some few reports stated city collections were fairly good.

The following shows the total figures for the district in the four reporting lines:

	Sales for May, 1921, compared with	
	April, 1921	May, 1920
Wholesale groceries	+ 4.0	—46.0
Wholesale dry goods	—12.6	—34.7
Wholesale hardware	— 7.3	—43.7
Wholesale shoes	— 6.5	—41.3

WHOLESALE GROCERIES.

Twenty-seven reports from individual wholesale grocery firms in the District contained figures which show an increase of 4.0 per cent in sales during May over those for April, although showing a decrease of 46.0 per cent compared with the amount of sales for May, 1920. Of the twenty-seven reports, slight increases over April sales were shown in seventeen instances. All reports indicate cautious buying on the part of both retailers and wholesalers and no disposition to stock up.

Wholesale grocery sales for May, 1921 compared with April, 1921 May, 1920

Atlanta	+ 3.5	—44.0
New Orleans	+ 1.7	—50.1
Meridian	+ 5.9	—45.5
Vicksburg	+13.8	—48.1
Alexandria	+15.4	—34.2
Other Cities	— 0.2	—38.5
District (27)*	+ 4.0	—46.0

* Number of reports.

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.

Reports were received from fifteen wholesale dry goods firms for May, and resulted in decreases of 12.6 per cent in sales, compared with April, and 34.7 per cent compared with May, 1920, sales. The total of May sales by the Atlanta firms was 2.0 per cent more than for April, but decreases were shown at all other points. As in the case of Groceries, buying in dry goods is being limited to actual requirements, but there is reported more of a tendency on the part of retailers to be on the lookout for bargains.

Wholesale dry goods sales May, 1921, compared with April, 1921 May, 1920

Atlanta	+ 2.0	—49.6
Nashville	—29.8	—38.1
Other cities	— 8.5	—28.0
District (15)*	—12.6	—34.7

* Number of reports.

WHOLESALE HARDWARE

Thirteen wholesale hardware firms in the District reported sales during May which were 7.3 per cent lower than sales by the same firms in April, and 43.7 per cent lower than their sales during May, 1920. Of the thirteen reports, six showed small increases over April sales, but these increases were more than counter balanced by decreases in other reports. Purchases are being made for immediate shipment only, and to meet actual requirements. Farmers are not buying implements, but are using old tools and implements which they have repaired.

	Wholesale hardware sales May, 1921 compared with	
	April, 1921	May, 1920
Atlanta	— 7.8	—60.5
New Orleans	— 5.4	—45.1
Other Cities	— 9.3	—20.1
District (13)*	— 7.3	—43.7

* Number of reports.

WHOLESALE SHOES

Of seven reports received from wholesale shoe dealers only one showed sales larger during May than during April, and all, of course, showed sales smaller in dollar volume than during May, 1920. The reports show that caution is being exercised in all buying; one report indicates a slight tendency toward anticipation of future needs.

	Wholesale shoe sales May, 1921, compared with	
	April, 1921	May, 1920
District (7)*	— 6.5	—41.3

* Number of reports.

AGRICULTURE.

The condition of the cotton crop in the United States on May 25 was announced by the Department of Agriculture to be 66.0 per cent of normal. This compares with 62.4 per cent a year ago, 75.6 per cent in 1919, 82.6 per cent in 1918, and 76.6 per cent average for the last ten years.

The condition by States was as follows:

	May 25, 1921			
	77	per cent of normal		
Virginia	65	"	"	"
North Carolina	58	"	"	"
South Carolina	63	"	"	"
Georgia	60	"	"	"
Florida	57	"	"	"
Alabama	60	"	"	"
Mississippi	57	"	"	"
Louisiana	71	"	"	"
Texas	70	"	"	"
Arkansas	69	"	"	"
Tennessee	75	"	"	"
Missouri	74	"	"	"
Oklahoma	75	"	"	"
California	84	"	"	"
Arizona	95	"	"	"
Other States				

For purposes of comparison, the condition of the cotton crop by months for the last five years, as reported by the Government, is shown as follows:

Year	May	June	July	August	Sept.
1921	66.0	—	—	—	—
1920	62.4	70.7	74.1	67.5	59.1
1919	75.6	70.0	67.1	61.4	54.4
1918	82.3	85.8	73.6	55.7	54.4
1917	69.5	70.3	70.3	67.8	60.4

CONDITION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS

Sixth Federal Reserve District
As Reported by the United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Crop Estimates

	Ala.	Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Tenn.
Wheat	83	—	84	—	70	84
Rye	—	—	86	—	—	—
Oats	—	70	86	81	83	83
Hay	80	84	86	88	76	75
Clover	85	—	88	93	—	—
Alfalfa	80	—	90	92	—	—
Pasture	85	84	85	90	—	83
Peas	82	85	90	83	80	84
Field Beans	85	86	86	85	90	—
Cabbages	89	—	92	85	80	85
Onions	90	—	91	90	88	—
Apples	56	—	52	—	51	17
Peaches	62	75	70	60	60	11
Pears	59	55	58	53	55	10
Blackberries	87	—	87	85	—	88
Watermelons	76	80	81	72	71	76
Cantaloupes	76	76	79	70	72	76
Oranges	—	84	—	—	—	—
Grapefruit	—	84	—	—	—	—
Limes	—	82	—	—	—	—
Pineapples	—	77	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes	—	80	—	—	—	—

Alabama

The United States Bureau of Crop Estimates, co-operating with the Alabama Department of Agriculture, reports the condition of cotton in the State of Alabama May 25 as 57 per cent of normal. The condition one year ago was 58, these two being the lowest condition figures reported for cotton in the state at this time of year for several years. Based on average results for recent years, the present condition indicates an acre-yield of less than 100 pounds of lint, the average for the State last year being about 110 pounds. Alabama, therefore, at present has a prospect of the poorest yield per acre in her history, with the exception of the 1916 yield, when July flood conditions and weevil damage resulted in less than 80 pounds per acre.

Poor germination, resulting in bad stands, and cool weather were given as the prevailing causes for the low condition throughout the State, the first part of May having been extremely cold and unfavorable for a good start. Reports of weevil appearance have also been received. While planting was begun early, the plant at present is much below the standard of size, and not generally healthy.

The average amount of fertilizer used per acre under cotton was reported as 136 pounds, compared with about 240 last year. Many farmers used none at all, and very few used their usual amount per acre.

The average cost of fertilizer per acre this year is reported about half that of last year, and the acre cost of production will be considerably less.

A preliminary estimate of the acreage sown to oats in Alabama for the present season, issued by the Co-operative Crop Reporting Service, shows the total sown for use as grain and feed in bundle, 457,000 acres. This is an increase over the acreage grown last year of 25 per cent. The condition of oats on June 1 is given as 83 per cent of normal, which indicates an average yield of 20 bushels per acre. There is, therefore, in prospect a production this year of 9,140,000 bushels, which compares with 6,551,000 bushels finally estimated last year. The noticeable increase in oats is thought to be the result of the decrease in cotton acreage and the trend toward the production of food and feed crops this year. In addition to the acreage intended for threshing and feeding in the bundle a considerable volume of oats is grown to be cut green and fed as hay.

The acreage growing to clover for hay this year is estimated to be 105 per cent of that grown last year, while the alfalfa acreage has been decreased by about 3 per cent. The acreage devoted to small fruits, including strawberries, is estimated as 95 per cent of that grown last year, notwithstanding that the commercial acreage is thought to be some larger. The season so far this year has not been favorable to crop growth, the first of the spring having been exceedingly cool and the last three weeks being deficient in rainfall to the point of damage in some sections. Even small grain is not quite so heavy as was indicated a month ago.

Florida

Condition of citrus fruits is favorable, staple crops, with the exception of cotton, very promising and melons and late truck crops showing satisfactory production. It is generally believed that the citrus crops have taken an upward turn in condition, although June 1 reports are lower than those of May 1. Much needed rains began falling late in May and the beneficial effects were not fully shown in reports for June 1. Condition of oranges at that time was 84 per cent normal, compared with 88 per cent on May 1 and 88 a year ago. Grapefruit show a condition of 84 compared with 89 a month ago and 75 in 1920; limes, 82 against 80 last month and 84 in 1920.

Very few sections report dropping of fruit to have been sufficiently heavy to reduce production to any great extent and, with young bearing trees to be taken into consideration as well as late bloom, there is little reason to anticipate anything but a satisfactory production for the coming season.

Condition of peaches and pears have improved during the month. Peaches are 75 per cent of normal compared with 72 a month ago and 76 last year. More LeConte pears are

showing up on the trees than were expected and condition has increased to 55 from 50 a month ago. Condition last year was 40 per cent of normal at this time.

Pineapples are slightly under last month's condition, being 77 per cent of normal, and not quite up to condition a year ago, which was 81 per cent. Present condition is due to rather small sizes of the fruit as a result of dry weather.

The State's production of tomatoes is estimated at 80 per cent of a normal, or usual crop, compared with last year's production of 68 per cent of normal. The movement from the State will probably exceed 5,000 carloads compared with a total of 3,792 reported by the Bureau of Markets last season. Results to the growers have been generally satisfactory, although in several localities the crop was damaged by excessive rains at harvesting time.

Condition of watermelons and cantaloupes has improved during May and is 80 per cent of normal for watermelons, compared with 77 a month ago and 78 a year ago; and 76 for cantaloupes compared with 73 a month ago and 76 last year. South Florida is through shipping and the movement from Central Florida is gaining in volume rapidly. A short but profitable season is expected. Quality of melons is excellent, with percentage of large sizes running ahead of last year.

With a reduction of 25 per cent in acreage and yields running lower than last year, the State's production of Irish potatoes is estimated at about 70 per cent of last year's crop. The season was earlier than usual and showed early prospects of bumper yields, but blight late in March caused considerable damage, reducing yields and affecting quality. Production is estimated at 1,750,000 bushels, compared with 2,625,000 last year and, in 1919, 1,824,000 bushels. Quality was slightly lower than usual, being 86 per cent of normal against 87 a year ago and 88 in 1919.

Indications point to a slight reduction in hay acreage from last year. Condition of early planted crops is improving, with prospects of good yields. Condition is 84 per cent of normal, compared with 82 a month ago and 90 last year.

Statement of Car Lot Shipments of Citrus Fruit and Vegetables from Florida during the month of May

	Month of May		Season to May 31st	
	1921	1920	1921	1920
Grapefruit	1047	1782	12941	12731
Oranges	551	545	20583	17159
Celery	218	363	4172	3059
Tomatoes	117	563	5220	3091
Potatoes	498	1962	2321	2054

Georgia

The condition of cotton in Georgia on May 25 is reported by the Co-operative Crop Reporting Service as 63 per cent of normal or full crop. With the exception of last year, when Georgia's cotton crop on the same date stood at 55 per cent of normal, the crop this year was lower than for the same date in fifteen years. The ten-year average of condition on May 25th in the State is 75 per cent.

The late winter months were almost ideal for field work and the land was splendidly prepared; but cold dry weather in April, which continued through early May, hindered planting, germination and growth. The seed had much difficulty in getting out of the ground. Continuous cold weather killed outright much of the young cotton and much of it is still dying. In some counties over 50 per cent of the crop had to be replanted. And replanting is still going on. Not a few of the farmers have planted as many as three times. Some of the abandoned fields are being put into corn and peanuts and peas.

The cotton plants present generally a stunted appearance. This is ascribed to the cold, and the sparing use of fertilizers. Stands range from bad to poor and are mostly poor. Only a few good stands are in evidence. Much of the replanted cotton has not come out of the ground yet, and it is going to make the crop very late. Where cotton is up the size of the plant is very irregular, ranging from just-up to six inches high in some localities.

Chopping out is making generally poor progress. Hundreds of fields have not as yet been put to a stand. The crop averages from ten days to six weeks late. Lice in some localities are eating it up stem and leaf. Many complaints are heard of boll weevil attacking the bud of young plants. The weevil is causing grave apprehension.

Excessive rains fell after May 10 for several days in Central and Southern Georgia, causing the fields to become boggy and grassy and weedy. In this section the state of cultivation is generally poor because of the rains. Warm, dry weather during the last days of May enabled cotton growers to overcome somewhat the lateness of the season and give their fields much needed cultivation.

According to reports, in some counties over 60 per cent of the cotton acreage has not been fertilized. Where used this year on cotton, fertilizer averaged 195 pounds per acre, and the average value of the application was about \$3.11 per acre.

The cold weather during April, coupled with the almost complete lack of rain during April and the early part of May has hindered the growth of all crops in Georgia, but the weather the last two or three weeks of May was favorable and improvement has taken place. Some rains have fallen in the central and southern parts of the State, but these rains were more in the nature of local rain storms, and their benefit was not general. Considerable damage to fruits, melons and other crops was done in the eastern and southern counties.

Louisiana

The condition of the Louisiana cotton crop on May 25 was reported at 57 per cent of normal, according to the Agricultural Statistician of the Bureau of Crop Estimates at New Orleans. This compares with 72 per cent on May 25, 1920; 74 per cent on May 25, 1919; 85 per cent on May 25, 1918, and with 79 per cent, the ten year average of condition on May 25.

The stand is generally reported as late and backward,

from two to four weeks. Cold, wet weather in April caused much of the seed to rot and some early cotton was killed by frost in the northern section. Very much of the cotton area had to be replanted, some of it two or three times.

The acreage in oats in the State is increased 9,000 acres, and the acreage of hay increased 11,000 acres, compared with last year, according to a report issued by the Agricultural Statistician at New Orleans.

The condition of onions is reported good and the condition of hay, field peas, beans and cabbages is generally satisfactory. Tree fruits were seriously injured by killing frosts in March and April in the northern section of the state, so that the condition of pears and peaches is considerably below the 10-year average.

SUGAR.

The condition of the Louisiana cane crop on June 1st is as follows:

1921	1920	1919	1918	10 yr. avg.
91%	75%	72%	91%	82.8%

The cane crop is in excellent condition; with favorable weather conditions and sufficient labor, the fields are clean and well cultivated.

Experiments made to destroy the sugar cane borer, which menaces the Louisiana sugar crop, have given some very satisfactory results. It has been proved that the borer will enter corn stalks, planted in cane fields in January, which may be plowed under in March, when the corn matures, and not interfere with the growth of the canecrop, which by then has passed the period of infestation. The Cuban fly, imported into this country last fall, has shown that it can survive a Louisiana winter, and as it is the deadly enemy of the caneborer, great hopes are entertained that this parasite destroyer will be of invaluable aid to the farmer in his fight against this infestation.

The price of sugar is still low and there is little activity in the sugar market. Cuba is facing a serious situation, as the sugar stocks in Cuban shipping ports are almost double those of last year, with the United States receiving sugar from many other countries.

MOVEMENT OF RAW SUGAR

Receipts:	May, 1921	April, 1921*	May, 1920
New Orleans	113,902,548	148,463,339	125,973,683
Savannah	3,273,600	27,481,280	53,446,400

Shipments:			
New Orleans	0	0	0
Savannah	0	0	0

Meltings:			
New Orleans	122,041,454	112,409,637	114,409,205
Savannah	6,965,089	23,195,373	34,146,867

Stocks:			
New Orleans	39,756,754	47,895,660	30,640,280
Savannah	5,502,400	7,037,120	25,722,240

* New Orleans April figures corrected since last report.

RICE.

It appears to be the consensus of opinion that not more than 50 per cent of the rice area of 1920 has been planted in rice this year. The crop that has been planted has been at a minimum cost, the farmers doing much of the work, feeding low grade rice and spending as little money as possible, for either cultivation of living conditions. With the 1921 rice crop being produced at the least possible outlay of any crop that was ever grown in the history of the industry and the carry-over smaller than was anticipated, owing to a fairly active rice movement during the last two months, it is stated that the growers should realize a fair profit on their product.

Rough Rice (Sacks) Port of New Orleans

	May, 1921	April, 1921	May, 1920
Receipts	227,415	126,032	54,554
Shipments	215,935	122,949	60,951
Stock	60,652	49,172	15,869

Clean Rice (Pockets) Port of New Orleans

	May, 1921	April, 1921	May, 1920
Receipts	179,708	196,120	32,389
Shipments	384,232	347,113	100,345
Stock	180,450	142,796	248,667

Receipts of Rough Rice (Barrels)

	May, 1921	Total this season	Total same time last year
Association Mills	465,522	5,806,543	
New Orleans Mills	227,415	1,709,441	
Outside Mills	451,509	2,185,936	
	1,144,446	9,701,920	6,941,367

Distribution of Milled Rice (Pockets)

	May, 1921	Total this season	Total same time last year
Association Mills	727,303	5,505,015	
New Orleans Mills	204,193	1,830,193	
Outside Mills	488,768	1,836,224	
	1,420,264	9,171,432	6,658,425

Stocks (Rough and Milled)

	June 1st, 1921	Same time last year
Association Mills	840,548	
New Orleans Mills	241,102	
Outside Mills	411,560	
	1,493,210	899,706

Foreign Trade in Rice—United States (Pounds)

	April, 1921	Season to end of April	Same time last year
Imports:			
Rough Rice	3,362,860	24,310,052	18,585,837
Clean rice	5,492,668	38,946,733	105,921,614
Brewers Rice	47,707	720,385	1,017,604
Exports:			
Domestic Rice	58,907,643	296,846,362	418,110,928

Mississippi

The condition of the cotton crop in Mississippi on May 25 was the lowest of record on that date, according to estimates of the agricultural statistician for the State.

The condition of the crop on May 25 was 60 per cent of normal, compared with 65 per cent same date in 1920, 73 in 1919, 86 in 1918, 66 in 1917, and the 10-year average of 78 per cent.

Various causes have contributed to the low condition of the crop. The prevailing low price destroyed largely the incentive for production. The season up to May 25 was highly unfavorable for preparation of seed beds and for germination of seeds. Most fields have been planted two to four times, putting the crop three weeks late on an average, thus increasing the risk from boll weevils. Stands are very poor, many fields are cloddy and rain is much needed in the delta and northern portions to dissolve clods and start growth. Labor is plentiful, but few farmers are financially able to employ sufficient help. Plowing and chopping are just getting under way.

The small quantity of fertilizer used, or its entire absence, is reflected in the low condition of the crop. It is impossible definitely to determine the average quantity applied per acre. The average of reports shows about 100 pounds per acre to cotton this year against 250 pounds last year, or 40 per cent. The restricted use of fertilizers this year, as compared with former years, is forcefully illustrated by the sales of fertilizer tags by the State Commissioner of Agriculture. The sales for acid phosphate and complete fertilizers, for the period October 1 to May 25, for the past four years have been as follows: 1921, 48,325 tons; 1920, 137,052 tons; 1919, 110,000 tons; 1918, 104,700 tons. Average for the four years, 100,019 tons. Hence tag sales this year for principal fertilizers used on cotton amount to only about 35 per cent of the sales of last year, and 48 per cent of the four-year average.

The acreage to truck crops, sweet potatoes and sugar cane has been materially increased over former years. Those crops require heavy applications of fertilizers. Nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, as top dressings for cotton, will be used sparingly or not at all this year.

The condition of the wheat crop of Mississippi on June 1st was 70 per cent of normal, which indicates a yield of 12.5 bushels per acre, or a total production of 75,000 bushels against 100,000 bushels last year.

Oats (fall and spring sown) show 215,000 acres this year, compared with 236,000 acres last year, 278,000 in 1919 and 322,000 in 1918, which shows a yearly decrease in the acreage of this important crop, due more largely to labor and weather conditions at seeding time than to voluntary reduction. The condition of the crop on June 1 was 83 per cent of normal, forecasting an acreage yield of 20.3 bushels, or a total production of 4,364,500 bushels, if threshed.

Tennessee

The cotton crop for Tennessee is getting started off rather slowly. The cold, wet, late spring has delayed planting, quite a lot of the crop had to be planted a second time, and, on May 25, much of the crop was still not up. The drying

winds the latter part of the month have dried the lands out to such an extent that germination has been checked. The crop is from fifteen to eighteen days late, although stands are about up to the average.

The condition of the crop in Tennessee on May 25 was 69 per cent, compared with 60 per cent same day last year and a ten-year average of 80 per cent.

Rust and drouth has had its effect on the wheat crop of the State. Many fields have become prematurely ripe and the yield and quality have suffered accordingly, but, as a whole, the crop will be up to the average in both respects. The acreage sown to oats is practically the same as last year, but unfavorable growing conditions have caused the crop to head low. For this reason, a majority of the crop will be saved as hay, and the amount threshed will be much less than usual. Only a small amount of barley is grown in the State. The acreage varies but little from year to year. The condition is reasonably good, 89 per cent. The acreage is 9,000, with an estimated yield of 224,000 bushels. The condition of all hay crops declined still further during May. The crop having already suffered from a cold, backward spring, was hit heavily by the extreme hot, dry weather the latter part of the month. Pastures also suffered accordingly. Vegetables of all kinds are very backward, and as a whole, their condition is low. The same is true of both watermelons and muskmelons, and, on account of weather conditions, a full crop of these has not yet been planted.

Special inquiry showed the poorest prospects for fruit in many years. The late frosts and freezes damaged the crop in all sections. There will be practically no apple, peach or pear crop in the State. The strawberry crop, which at one time looked to be only about one-third, turned out much better and a 50 per cent crop was produced. The southeastern section produced about 80 per cent normal and the western about 35 per cent of normal. The blackberry crop, with rain, bids to be fair. The present prospects for the State are: Apples, 17 per cent; peaches, 11 per cent; pears, 10 per cent; strawberries, 50 per cent; grapes, 45 per cent; blackberries, 88 per cent.

Cantaloupes

The commercial acreage of cantaloupes planted in the early producing States in 1921 and the acreage harvested in 1920, 1919, 1918 and 1917 is shown in the following table:

States	1921 Acres	1920 Acres	1919 Acres	1918 Acres	1917 Acres
Alabama	300	290	289	.....	600
Arizona	3,265	2,740	4,600	2,260	3,400
California	28,100	31,817	25,440	15,655	18,800
Florida	645	1,148	1,026	670	1,200
Georgia	1,265	1,331	1,939	2,930	7,600
Nevada	100	100	60	200	600
New Mexico	2,200	2,515	1,330	630	700
North Carolina	1,985	1,860	1,695	1,070	4,100
South Carolina	1,060	790	558	525	900
Texas	675	600	.....	.....	.....
Total	39,595	43,191	36,937	23,940	37,900

MOVEMENT OF COTTON—(Bales)

Receipts—Ports:

	May, 1921	April, 1921	May, 1920
New Orleans	98,698	81,406	87,598
Mobile	9,954	6,423	5,502
Savannah	81,158	43,941	40,671

Receipts—Interior Towns:

Atlanta	22,212	16,338	10,999
Augusta	26,138	19,600	25,117
Canton	597	315	85
Jackson	467	412	85
Meridian	1,026	771	783
Montgomery	1,383	482	1,002
Vicksburg	12,386	12,278	17,831

Shipments—Ports:

New Orleans	83,106	82,405	104,524
Mobile	14,180	2,060	5,928
Savannah	68,600	48,733	108,747

Shipments—Interior Towns:

Atlanta	23,312	14,353	18,289
Augusta	26,259	21,522	29,040
Canton	1,593	709	683
Jackson	1,680	710	87
Meridian	1,182	491	1,279
Montgomery	2,673	1,279	1,758
Vicksburg	6,084	4,705	13,622

Stocks—Ports:

New Orleans	417,227	401,635	321,324
Mobile	14,489	19,219	4,171
Savannah	170,151	157,593	62,978

Stocks—Interior Towns:

Atlanta	34,401	35,501	19,775
Augusta	136,868	139,497	90,248
Canton	7,643	8,634	1,669
Jackson	8,795	10,008	3,692
Meridian	13,445	13,601	2,389
Montgomery	29,438	30,728	6,575
Vicksburg	11,796	13,607	6,210

COTTON MOVEMENT FROM AUGUST TO MAY

U. S. PORTS

(Bales)

	1921	1920	1919
Receipts at ports	6,045,338	7,026,737	5,530,916
Overland	1,070,514	1,530,287	1,347,264
Southern Mill Takings....	2,097,000	3,070,263	3,129,500
Interior Stocks	552,292	176,979	481,450
Total Movement	9,765,144	11,804,266	10,489,130
Northern Spinners			
Takings	1,511,323	2,593,315	2,055,774
Foreign Exports	4,515,179	6,001,496	4,394,488

WORLD'S COTTON CARRYOVER, JULY 1st.

The world carryover of cotton on July 31, 1921, was estimated in statistics made public by the Bureau of Markets, Department of Agriculture, to total approximately 10,547,993 bales, which compares with the estimate of 10,648,550 bales made by the Bureau of Markets of February 12th.

The estimate of stocks of cotton on May 1 in the United States was given at 9,200,689 bales, of which amount 1,316,015 bales is in consuming establishments, 5,028,631 bales in public storage and at compress, and 2,856,043 bales elsewhere.

Stocks outside the United States, excepting stocks in the interior points in Egypt, India and China, total 3,447,304 bales, not including 1,200,000 bales estimated mill stocks of May 1 in Great Britain, on the Continent and in Japan, thus bringing the total world total of stocks at an estimated 13,847,993 bales. World consumption from May 1 to July 31 is estimated at 3,300,000 bales. The weight of bales is approximately 500 pounds each.

American cotton afloat for Europe to May totaled 249,204 bales; Indian cotton afloat for Europe, 45,600 bales; Egyptian and Brazilian cotton afloat, 69,000 bales, and cotton at British ports, including London, 1,050,000 bales. Cotton at Continental ports totaled approximately 592,000 bales, while at Alexandria there was an estimated 373,500 bales. Ah Bombar approximately 1,068,000 bales were in stock.

TREND OF FARM PRICES.

The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops decreased about 7.6 per cent during April; in the past ten years the price level increased about 6.7 per cent in a like period. On May 1 the index figure of prices was about 64.5 per cent lower than a year ago, 56.2 lower than two years ago and 37.3 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on May 1.

The prices of meat animals (hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens) to producers of the United States decreased 9 per cent from March 15 to April 15; in the past ten years prices increased in like period 4.1 per cent. On April 15 the index figure of prices for these meat animals was about 37.9 per cent lower than two years ago, and 16.3 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on April 15.

MOVEMENT OF LIVESTOCK—MAY

	May 1921	April, 1921	May, 1920
Cattle and Calves			
Receipts:			
Atlanta	3643	4733	2641
Jacksonville	1002	731	*224
Montgomery	2876	6690	4141
Nashville	6144	6447	6261
Purchases for slaughter:			
Atlanta	2442	2601	*
Jacksonville	955	704	*224
Montgomery	2077	5403	1166
Nashville	3771	3953	4218
Hogs			
Receipts:			
Atlanta	3313	7908	5124
Jacksonville	6373	7132	*4691
Montgomery	4879	10645	7857
Nashville	3652	57066	67151
Purchases for slaughter:			
Atlanta	2060	2943	*
Jacksonville	5828	7132	4691
Montgomery	4281	7895	7201
Nashville	8134	9267	4680
Sheep			
Receipts:			
Atlanta	85	17	*
Nashville	60970	3677	18503
Montgomery	233	455	293
Purchases for slaughter:			
Atlanta	85	17	0
Nashville	4599	1410	1551
Montgomery	218	436	266
Horses and Mules			
Receipts:			
Atlanta	103	361	*

* Record incomplete.

LIVESTOCK MARKET PRICES

Prices on good quality fed stock at points indicated, on last business day of May, 1921

	Price Per Hundred Pounds			
	Atlanta	Jacksonville	Montgomery	Nashville
BEEF				
Good to choice steers	\$7.75—\$8.50	\$5.00—\$7.00	\$6.00—\$7.00	\$7.50—\$8.00
Medium to good steers	7.00— 8.00	4.50— 5.00	5.00— 6.00	5.50— 7.00
Good to choice beef cows	6.50— 7.00	4.00— 5.00	4.00— 5.00	5.00— 6.00
Medium to good cows	5.00— 6.00	3.00— 4.00	3.00— 4.00	3.00— 4.50
Good to choice heifers	6.00— 7.00	4.00— 6.50	4.00— 5.00	6.00— 7.00
Choice veal calves	7.00— 9.00	5.00— 7.00	6.00— 8.00	7.00— 8.00
HOGS				
Prime hogs	8.00— 8.50	7.00— 8.25	7.00	8.25
Light hogs	7.50— 8.00	6.00— 8.75	6.75	8.10
Heavy pigs	7.50— 7.75	6.00— 8.75	6.50	7.75
SHEEP				
Prime fat sheep		4.00— 4.50		3.50
Common to medium sheep		3.00— 3.50		1.00— 2.00
Prime lambs		7.00— 8.00		12.75
Common to medium lambs		4.00— 5.00		5.00— 7.50

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS—NEW ORLEANS.

The value of imports received at New Orleans for the month of April, 1921, totaled \$13,373,145.00. The principal articles of import were as follows:

Commodity	Volume	Value
Coffee	36,656,086 lbs.	\$2,943,058.00
Sugar	122,854,029 lbs.	5,743,171.00
Burlaps	11,773,167 lbs.	1,472,280.00
Creosote Oil	514,717 gal.	74,704.00
Sisal	6,119 tons	666,281.00
Bananas	1,747,651 bunches	694,303.00
Mineral Oil	96,154,956 gal.	1,137,875.00
Sugar Beet Seed	281,692 lbs.	49,711.00
Mahogany	889,000 ft.	111,604.00
Molasses	7,773,927 gal.	154,479.00

The following table gives comparative figures for imports at New Orleans for April for the years shown:

1921	\$13,373,145.00
1920	30,831,682.00
1919	15,289,545.00
1918	14,282,041.00
1914	8,505,735.00
1911	4,762,862.00

Although there has been an appreciable increase over April, 1920, in the quantity of commodities received during April, 1921, imports for the month at the port of New Orleans show a decrease in values due to the falling market prices, as has been the case during the previous months. The volume of import business is steadily increasing, especially in burlaps, bananas, mineral oil, sugar beet seed, coffee, sisal and sugar. Computing the April, 1921, volume of imports at the prices that prevailed in April, 1920, import valuations for April, 1921, would show an excess of \$2,000,000.00 when compared with April, 1920; instead of a decrease of \$17,500,000.00, as it does under present market conditions. A very large proportion of the difference is due to the decrease in the price of sugar.

Grain exports continue active, despite the lateness of the season, and restrictions due to the recent marine workers' strike. Grain exports from New Orleans for the month of May, 1921, amounted to 5,627,897 bushels, of which 5,082,839 bushels were wheat. There was on board, but not cleared, at the end of the month 1,325,120 bushels of wheat and 52,571 bushels of rye.

EXPORTS OF GRAIN THROUGH PORT OF NEW ORLEANS SINCE JULY 1st, 1920

Total	83,832,997 Bu.
Wheat	68,448,928 "
Corn	7,188,161 "
Barley	5,054,656 "

A decision has been definitely reached whereby the Mississippi Warrior Barge Service will continue to operate under Government control until the new equipment has been thoroughly tested out. It has been suggested that ultimately a Valley Company be formed to lease or purchase the line. The Government has appropriated \$525,000.00 to develop this service. The contemplated improvements will consist of the

addition of a marine leg to the Public Grain Elevator, which will enable the barge service to unload a large amount of wheat without interrupting the loading facilities for ocean vessels. Another improvement will be a transit wharf and large cargo warehouse, to be used for the storage of flour, and to a limited extent only for other commodities. Local authorities at New Orleans will share the expense of these improvements. Regular weekly barge service is now in operation, with freight rates still on a basis of 20 per cent under the rail rates. A cut in the rail freight rates, between New Orleans and California has been the result of the adjustment of ocean freight rates between those sections, via the Panama Canal.

FINANCIAL.

Financial conditions in the District during May were not materially different from those reported in the last issue of this Review. The money requirements of farmers throughout the District this spring have been very much less than was spent in preparing for and producing last year's crops, which were probably the most expensive ever grown. Reports from all over the Sixth Federal Reserve District emphasize the economy being practiced on all sides. While this applies especially to the agricultural classes, it is also true of those engaged in other lines, and applies to an encouraging degree to the personal expenditures of a large proportion of the public generally.

Thirty-five member banks replied to the Federal Reserve Bank's questionnaire for May. Twenty-seven of these banks reported the demand for funds "Steady," two reported increased demand and one report shows decreased demand.

Loans.—Varying reports were received in regard to the volume of loans during May. Three Alabama banks reported increases of from 2 to 10 per cent in loans for May over April loans; three reports show decreases of from 5 to 9 per cent, while one report shows no change. Three Florida reports show smaller volume of loans in May than in April, one report showing a slight increase. Five Georgia banks report decreases of 1 1-2 to 5 per cent; six banks no change, and one report shows a slight increase. Three Louisiana reports show loans 4 per cent less during May than April. Two Tennessee reports show slight increases and two show small decreases.

Compared with loans during May, 1920, decreases are shown by four Alabama banks, two in Florida, seven in Georgia, two each in Louisiana and Mississippi, and one in Tennessee, ranging from very slight decreases to 20 per cent in Alabama, 25 per cent in Florida, 24 per cent in Georgia, 25 per cent in Louisiana, and 31 per cent in Mississippi. Increases in loans over those of May, 1920, were reported by two Alabama banks, four in Georgia, one in Louisiana and three each in Mississippi and Tennessee, ranging up to 20 per cent in Mississippi, 30 per cent in Tennessee and 35 per cent in Alabama.

Twenty-six reporting banks show greatly decreased deposits for May, 1921, as compared with May, 1920.

While some reports show increases in savings deposits during May over those for April, the majority show that

the deposits in savings accounts have not fluctuated materially during the month. The increases reported for May, 1921, compared with May, 1920, outnumber the decreases, however, and it is evident that in spite of the wage reductions which have taken place and the unemployment prevailing, the amount of money in savings accounts in the District is larger than it was at this time last year.

Loans are still being renewed in a majority of instances. Eleven reporting banks state that 100 per cent of their agricultural paper is being renewed as it comes due, and ten others state that 90 per cent or more is being renewed.

Sixteen reports show that 90 per cent or more of "other paper" is being renewed. The following table shows a classification of the replies by banks to our May questionnaire.

	Ala.	Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Tenn.
Number replies to questionnaire	7	4	12	3	5	4
Demand for funds during May compared with preceding months:						
A. Increasing	1	—	—	—	1	—
B. Steady	3	4	10	3	4	3
C. Decreasing	—	—	—	—	—	1
Loans during May compared with April, 1921:						
A. Increase	3	1	1	—	3	2
B. Decrease	3	3	5	3	1	2
C. No change	1	—	6	—	1	—
Loans during May compared with May, 1920:						
A. Increase	2	—	4	1	3	3
B. Decrease	4	2	7	2	2	1
C. No change	1	2	1	—	—	—
Deposits during May compared with April, 1921:						
A. Increase	1	—	5	1	1	3
B. Decrease	4	3	3	2	3	1
C. No change	2	1	4	—	1	—
Deposits during May compared with May, 1920:						
A. Increase	1	—	1	—	1	1
B. Decrease	5	4	10	1	3	3
C. No change	—	—	1	—	1	—
Percentage of agricultural loans being renewed:						
Number of banks reporting 95 to 100 per cent	2	—	4	1	3	1
Number of banks reporting 85 to 95 per cent	2	1	4	2	—	—
Number of banks reporting less than 85 per cent	2	—	3	—	2	1
Percentage of other than agricultural loans being renewed:						
Number of banks reporting 95 to 100 per cent	2	—	4	1	1	1
Number of banks reporting 85 to 95 per cent	3	—	3	—	1	1
Number of banks reporting 75 to 85 per cent	1	3	3	—	1	—
Number of banks reporting less than 75 per cent	1	1	—	2	2	1

ACCEPTANCE MARKET.

Out of approximately thirty-five inquiries sent to the principal accepting banks in the District, reports were received from fourteen member banks regarding acceptance conditions during May. Eight of these reports showed no dealings of any kind in acceptances during the month. Four banks reported domestic acceptances executed during May in amounts approximately 3 per cent in excess of those executed during April. Two of these reports showed no domestic acceptances executed during May, 1920, and figures shown in the other

two indicated a decrease of a little more than 50 per cent, compared with May of last year. Two banks reported foreign acceptances executed during May approximately 25 per cent less than in April, and 21 per cent less than during May, 1920.

The amount of acceptances rediscounted with and purchased by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta during May was larger than for February and March, but about 61 per cent less than for April, which was the highest since January.

Charges to Individual Account at Fifteen Clearing House Cities, Federal Reserve District No. 6. (000 omitted).

Week Ended	May 4, 1921	May 11, 1921	May 18, 1921	May 25, 1921	May 5, 1920	May 12, 1920	May 19, 1920	May 26, 1920
Atlanta	25,531	22,864	26,069	21,246	33,249	32,912	37,323	30,569
Augusta	6,186	4,045	4,961	4,457	10,873	9,115	8,976	9,936
Birmingham	15,858	12,771	15,313	12,135	19,833	17,273	17,468	17,836
Chattanooga	8,791	7,717	8,390	6,906	13,008	12,374	14,359	11,900
Jacksonville	11,722	10,942	11,230	8,886	15,653	14,744	15,233	14,175
Knoxville	6,595	6,276	5,729	4,614	7,421	6,893	7,462	6,484
Macon	4,419	3,902	3,776	3,569	8,542	7,149	8,633	8,283
Mobile	6,706	5,972	5,785	5,358	10,104	9,305	9,577	8,866
Montgomery	3,706	5,442	3,464	2,952	5,223	5,023	5,285	5,000
Nashville	20,306	20,552	19,335	18,558	26,248	28,684	27,556	27,803
New Orleans	67,436	51,531	53,637	48,608	85,934	74,003	80,556	81,816
Pensacola	1,540	1,446	1,976	1,331	2,707	2,280	2,780	2,236
Savannah	11,334	10,005	9,851	8,538	19,464	18,490	17,641	16,368
Tampa	6,346	6,676	5,736	4,474	7,596	6,991	7,061	5,813
Vicksburg	1,384	1,360	1,222	997	2,308	2,320	2,060	1,496
Total Sixth District	197,860	171,501	176,474	152,659	268,163	247,556	261,786	248,581
Total United States	8,152,198	7,274,407	8,490,254	6,968,829	9,613,465	9,201,562	9,285,453	9,078,644

CLEARINGS—MAY

Alabama—	May, 1921	April, 1921	May, 1920	April, 1921 Compared with April, 1920	
				Inc. Per Ct.	Dec. Per Ct.
Birmingham	72,857,730	77,117,242	88,216,106	.....	17.4
Mobile	6,962,189	6,586,129	11,172,006	.....	37.6
Montgomery	5,642,405	5,591,627	8,634,410	.....	34.6
Florida—					
Jacksonville	42,744,796	45,837,984	55,031,213	.....	22.3
Pensacola	6,737,065	6,524,510	10,837,601	.....	37.8
Tampa	11,048,530	11,068,835	12,672,994	.....	9.3
Georgia—					
Atlanta	168,278,224	167,992,410	288,861,045	.....	41.7
Augusta	8,331,333	7,967,770	19,063,038	.....	56.3
Columbus	3,041,644	3,113,372	4,778,634	.....	36.3
Macon	5,207,271	15,305,289	32,610,199	.....	84.3
Savannah	17,475,722	17,330,224	40,163,632	.....	56.4
Louisiana—					
New Orleans	172,367,956	170,926,219	271,274,884	.....	36.4
Mississippi—					
Meridian	2,352,215	2,502,697	*	.....	.....
Vicksburg	1,031,267	1,151,419	1,874,117	.....	44.9
Tennessee—					
Chattanooga	22,074,858	20,919,602	37,357,442	.....	40.9
Knoxville	11,944,636	12,487,807	13,505,020	.....	11.5
Nashville	68,007,796	74,242,501	100,920,267	.....	32.6

*Not available.

PREVAILING INTEREST RATES—MAY, 1921.

	Atlanta			N. Orleans			B'ham			Nashville			Chattanooga			J'sonville		
	T	L	C	H	L	C	H	L	C	T	L	C	H	L	C	H	L	C
Customer's Prime Commercial Paper:																		
30 to 90 days	8	6	7	8	6½	7½	7¼	7	7	7	6	7	8	6	7	8	7	8
4 to 6 months	8	6	7	8	7	7½	7¼	7	7	7	6	6	—	—	—	8	7	8
Prime Commercial Paper purchased in open market:																		
30 to 90 days	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7½	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 to 6 months	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7½	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Loans to other Banks	8	6	7	7½	6½	7	7	6	6	7	6	6	7	6	6	7½	7	7
Bankers' Acceptances 60 to 90 days:																		
Endorsed	8	6	7	6¾	6½	6½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unendorsed	8	6	7	7½	6½	7	7	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Loans secured by prime stock exchange collateral or other current collateral:																		
Demands	—	—	—	8	7½	8	—	—	—	7	6	7	8	6	7	8	8	8
3 months	8	6	7	8	7	7½	8	6	7	7	6	7	8	6	7	8	8	8
6 months	8	6	7	8	7	7½	—	—	—	7	6	7	—	—	—	8	8	8
Cattle Loans	—	—	—	8	7½	8	—	—	—	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Commodity paper secured by warehouse receipts	8	6½	7	8	7½	8	7	6	7	7	6	7	8	6	7	8	7	8
Loans secured by Liberty Bonds and Certificates.....	8	6	7	8	6½	7	8	6	7	6	6	6	7	6	6	8	7	8

FAILURES IN THE UNITED STATES.

With a reduction in the number of failures of 8.8 per cent, and an increase of 48.0 per cent in the amount of liabilities, commercial failures in the United States during May reversed the tendency of the immediately preceding month. Aside from April, the number of defaults has fallen steadily this year, but several insolvencies of exceptional size have kept the liabilities at a high level, and a single failure alone supplied nearly one-third of last month's aggregate. While the 1,356 defaults reported in May are 131 less than those of the previous month, the \$57,066,471 of indebtedness is fully \$18,000,000 above the April figures, and also exceeds all former May totals. The numerical comparison with the May statistics of earlier years is likewise unfavorable, last month's insolvencies being the largest on record for the period, excepting May of 1916, 1915 and 1908, and present returns make a striking contrast with only 547 failures for \$10,826,277 of May, 1920. Relatively the greatest increase over the low mortality of a year ago is in the liabilities, due mainly to the heavy amount involved by the defaults of unusual magnitude. Thus, 67 insolvencies for \$100,000 or more in each instance in May, this year, involved \$39,404,188 altogether, whereas in that month of 1920 there were only 17 such failures for little more than \$5,800,000. Most of the large defaults last month occurred in manufacturing lines, but the class designated as "other commercial," which embraces agents' brokers and other concerns that cannot be properly included in either manufacturing or trading, provided much the heaviest proportion of the indebtedness.

The following table shows failures, classified by Federal Reserve Districts, for May, 1921, compared with figures for May, 1920:

District	May			
	1921 No.	1920 No.	1921 Liab.	1920 Liab.
First	97	52	\$ 2,783,066	\$ 376,586
Second	222	133	11,172,495	2,413,591
Third	69	37	1,516,894	1,085,182
Fourth	102	42	1,969,231	2,544,273
Fifth	99	41	2,657,764	1,577,684
Sixth	148	44	4,750,423	715,555
Seventh	169	60	5,624,522	692,450
Eighth	101	13	20,612,058	61,243
Ninth	59	18	1,203,396	163,487
Tenth	67	16	1,073,219	179,251
Eleventh	92	15	1,851,774	168,165
Twelfth	131	76	1,851,629	848,810
Total	1,356	547	\$57,066,471	\$10,826,277

WHOLESALE PRICES IN THE UNITED STATES

Compiled and Released by the Federal Reserve Board.

The index number of wholesale prices in the United States compiled by the Federal Reserve Board for the purpose of international comparisons showed a decline of prices during May of only .5 per cent against 5 per cent during April. On the basis of prices in 1913 equal to 100, commodities imported shifted from an index number of 109 during April to 105 during May. Prices of exports rose from 121 in April to 125 in May. The all-commodities index stands at 142 as compared with 143 in April.

This index number is compiled from 90 wholesale price quotations for representative commodities taken in leading

United States markets. In most cases weekly quotations are averaged to obtain the monthly figures, and these in turn are weighed according to the importance of the commodity before the index number is constructed. Part of the quotations used are furnished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rest are compiled from trade journals and private firms of recognized authority.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN UNITED STATES—Average Price for 1913—100)

1920	Goods pro- d'c'd	Goods im- p't'd	Goods ex- p't'd	Goods con- s'm'd	Raw mate- rials	Pro- d'c'rs goods	Con- s'm'rs goods	All
April	265	242	264	263	263	274	257	263

May	266	246	262	264	263	274	261	264
June	260	226	256	257	258	265	255	258
July	253	208	248	249	249	251	250	250
August	238	182	229	234	237	235	229	234
Sept.	231	164	211	227	233	225	218	226
October	213	142	181	211	211	209	203	208
Nov.	195	127	163	193	192	190	187	190
Dec.	178	112	146	176	176	171	171	173
1921								
Jan.	166	114	142	165	164	166	159	163
Feb.	156	113	135	155	152	158	152	154
March	152	114	125	145	146	153	151	150
April	145	109	121	.....	136	148	147	143
May	145	105	125	.....	139	145	144	142

INDICES OF WHOLESALE PRICES

BASE: Prices 1913 equal 100: United States

Canada

France

Italy

Japan

1920	United States	Canada	France
April	263	261	588
May	264	263	550
June	258	258	493
July	250	256	496
August	234	244	501
September	226	241	526
October	208	234	502
November	190	225	461
December	173	214	435
1921			
January	163	208	407
February	154	199	377
March	150	194	360
April	143	187	347
May	.....	.....	328
June	.....	.....	.....

BASE: Prices July, 1914, equals 100: Sweden

Australia

Calcutta

BASE: Prices Jan., 1920, equal 100

Germany

Italy	Japan	Sweden	Australia	Calcutta	Germany*
664	300	354	217	200	146
660	272	361	225	210	156
632	248	366	233	206	134
604	239	363	234	209	136
625	235	365	236	209	141
655	230	362	230	208	144
659	226	346	215	206	146
670	221	331	208	194	152
655	206	299	197	180	153
642	201	267	196	178	148
613	195	250	192	174	136
604	191	237	181	183	131
584	190	229	.....	.....	130
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	130
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	128

*NOTE—Figures for German prices are figured for the beginning of each month, and show changes taking place during the preceding month in price level.

LUMBER AND BUILDING.

The demand for lumber evidenced by the average orders (697,049 feet) reported to the Southern Pine Association by 134 mills for the week ended April 29 has not been maintained through May. Orders in smaller volume were shown in reports issued for each week in May, and for the week ended June 3 average orders had declined to 456,538 feet. Average shipments declined from 571,946 feet for the last week in April, to 537,727 feet for the week ended June 3. Production, however, increased from 492,014 feet for the last week in April to 508,384 feet for the week ended May 27, and for the week ended June 3 were 506,823 feet. Production for the week is reported as only 23.8 per cent below normal. Orders for the week were 9.92 per cent below production and 15.04 per cent below shipments.

Notable increases in building permits occurred at several points in the District during May, compared to figures for May, 1920. Permits for the erection of an apartment house valued at \$60,000 and a school building valued at \$200,000, taken with an increase in permits for dwellings from 40 in May, 1920, to 165 in May, 1921, caused an increase of 163.1 per cent at Birmingham. This applies also to Knoxville, Nashville and Jacksonville. The increase at Montgomery is accounted for solely by the increase in dwelling construction from 4,980 in May, 1920, to \$28,740 in May, 1921, permits for repairs and alterations being slightly less in May this year. Permits for two churches, with a substantial increase in the number and value of dwelling permits, were the cause of the increase at Atlanta. At New Orleans in May, 1920, permits for two large bank buildings and other smaller buildings were issued to the value of over \$2,100,000. While the number and value of residences increased substantially, a decrease is shown in the total for the month.

SOUTHERN PINE STATISTICS.

The statistical report of the Southern Pine Association for the week ending June 3rd, with 139 mills reporting, is as follows:

	Cars	Feet
Orders on hand beginning of week	10,593	233,247,267
Orders received during week	2,882	63,458,758
Total	13,475	296,706,025
Shipments during week	3,392	74,688,448
Orders on hand end of week	10,083	222,017,577
For the week (139 mills):		
	Total	Average
		Per Mill
Orders	63,458,758 ft.	456,538 ft.
Shipments	74,688,448 ft.	537,327 ft.
Production	70,448,378 ft.	506,823 ft.
Normal production these mills	92,446,853 ft.	665,085 ft.
Shipments above production for the week	4,240,070 ft.	= 6.02%
Orders below production for the week	6,989,620 ft.	= 9.92%
Orders below shipments for the week	11,229,690 ft.	= 15.04%
Actual production below normal	21,998,475 ft.	= 23.80%
Shipments below normal production	17,758,405 ft.	= 19.21%
Orders below normal production	28,988,095 ft.	= 31.36%
Decrease in "orders on hand" during week	11,229,690 ft.	= 4.81%

Previous Reports

	Mills	Avg. Re-	Avg. shipment	Avg. Pro-	Avg. Normal Pro-	Avg. Total	Avg. unfilled orders
Week ended	port-	orders (feet)	(feet)	duction (feet)	duction (feet)	cars	per mill (feet)
May 6	132	568,279	574,445	520,557	679,265	10,834	1,758,063
May 13	140	603,279	595,170	522,564	688,317	11,901	1,820,853
May 20	134	537,001	582,353	499,000	655,892	10,605	1,742,623
May 27	145	519,800	570,672	508,384	674,168	10,690	1,623,332
June 3	139	456,538	537,327	506,823	665,085	10,083	1,597,249

BUILDING PERMITS—MAY

Repairs and Alterations	New Buildings	May, 1921 compared with May, 1920
No. Value	No. Value	Inc. Dec.

ALABAMA:

Anniston	10	\$9,000	2	\$8,500	31.9%
Birmingham	259	83,452	235	683,163	163.1%
Mobile	1	200	12	16,100	39.1%
Montgomery ..	96	20,138	14	28,740	87.0%

FLORIDA:

Jacksonville	15	11,000	78	429,800	20.1%
Miami	32	31,000	91	584,800	47.3%
Orlando	29	22,216	56	134,480	88.5%
Pensacola	58	16,865	15	38,255	99.1%
Tampa	(Combined)		263	299,798	47.1%
W. Palm Bch...	28	11,050	27	151,200	52.1%

GEORGIA:

Atlanta	133	116,717	229	1,439,565	28.5%
Augusta	232	28,870	44	117,216	42.1%
Brunswick	17	1,675	2	650	6.4%
Columbus	—	—	6	38,550	22.3%
Macon	30	4,167	18	34,290	72.7%
Savannah	(Combined)		71	142,200	53.5%
*Waycross					

LOUISIANA:

New Orleans ..	63	152,575	207	501,775	70.3%
Alexandria	48	22,906	30	43,759	20.0%

MISSISSIPPI:

Meridian	2	1,400	2	2,800	93.2%
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TENNESSEE:

*Chattanooga					
Johnson City ..	10	4,700	16	69,850	
Knoxville	78	52,537	62	301,800	112.1%
Nashville	132	21,753	68	255,670	98.1%

* Report not received.

MANUFACTURING.

Manufacturers of cotton hosiery report continued improvement, although slight, in their operations. Two mills report increases of 5 and 10 per cent, respectively, in production during May, compared with April, although three reports show production smaller by 14, 20 and 40 per cent, respectively, than during May, 1920. Stocks of manufactured product have decreased slightly compared with the end of April, but are considerably larger than stocks on hand at the end of May last year, and unfilled orders are from 25 per cent to 75 per cent less than for May, 1920. Prices were an average of 60 per cent less in May, 1921, than those prevailing one year ago, while wages paid are reported at from 12 1-2 to 40 per cent less.

Conditions in the manufacture of brick and clay products in Alabama are about as shown in last month's Review. Some improvement has taken place in the industry in Georgia. Production and stocks on hand show small increases over the preceding month and over May, 1920. Prices are reported to be 20 per cent to 60 per cent less than those prevailing one year ago, and wages from 25 per cent to 50 per cent less. Increases of 10 to 20 per cent are reported in unfilled orders on hand at the end of May, compared with those at the end of April.

Conditions in the manufacture of overalls have not improved during the month. Factories are still operating on about 50 per cent of capacity basis, and stocks are accumu-

lating; prices showed some decline, and buyers are purchasing very lightly. Little demand is reported.

Cottonseed oil and peanut mills are either dormant or operating on very limited basis. Working forces were largely reduced. Stocks and unfilled orders, as well as production, were smaller than for the preceding months.

COTTON MANUFACTURING.

Cotton Goods.

Eighteen reports from representative cotton mills making cotton goods show an increase of 7.8 per cent in the amount of cloth manufactured during May over the product of the same mills in April, although a decrease of 57.8 per cent compared with figures for cloth produced in May, 1920.

Shipments of cotton cloth increased 5 1-2 per cent over April shipments, but were 62.5 per cent less than shipments during May, 1920.

Orders on hand at the end of May were 18.9 per cent more than at the end of April, indicating an increase in the demand for cotton goods. A few mills have resumed operations recently which had been closed down for months.

Cotton Goods Statement

	Increase	Decrease
Cotton cloth produced during May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	7.8%	
Cotton cloth produced during May, 1921, compared with May, 1920		57.8%
Shipments of cloth during May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	5.5%	
Shipments of cloth during May, 1921, compared with May, 1920		62.5%
Orders on hand at end of May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	18.9%	
Orders on hand at end of May, 1921 compared with May, 1920		75.8%

COTTON YARN.

Nine representative mills producing cotton yarn reported 41.4 per cent more yarn manufactured during May than in April and only 11.6 less than in May, 1920.

Shipments increased 58.3 per cent over April shipments, and were only one-half of one per cent less than during May, 1920, while orders on hand increased only one-tenth of one per cent over April.

Cotton Yarn Statement

	Inc.	Dec.
Cotton yarn produced during May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	41.4%	
Cotton yarn produced during May, 1921, compared with May, 1920		11.6%
Shipments of yarn during May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	58.3%	
Shipments of yarn during May, 1921, compared with May, 1920		0.5%
Orders on hand at end of May, 1921, compared with April, 1921	0.1%	
Orders on hand at end of May, 1921, compared with May, 1920		19.3%

ENGLISH COTTON MILL OPERATIONS.

Fifteen cotton mills, 26,148 spindles and 7,684 looms in the cotton manufacturing center of Lancashire, England, have suspended operations so far in 1921, leaving 1,959 firms, 57,937,812 mule-and-ring spindles and 790,399 looms operating on part time, according to a report recently received by the United States Department of Agriculture.

About one-third of the world's cotton spindles are located in Lancashire and the consumption of cotton normally equals about one-sixth of the world's commercial crop. To April 15 English spinners had taken 1,307,000 bales of American cotton, compared with 2,180,000 to April 15, 1920, a falling off of about 40 per cent.

The importations of American cotton by all European countries so far this season amount to about 1,500,000 bales less than last season. At present, spinners are buying from hand to mouth, and using up reserve stocks. Under normal trade conditions, most spinners, both in England and elsewhere, would take advantage of the low prices now prevailing for American cotton, but there is no incentive, naturally, for mills to buy cotton in order to manufacture goods which, for the most part, cannot be sold.

LABOR.

Unemployment in the United States increased approximately one-half of one per cent during May, according to a statement by the Department of Labor, based upon reports from 1,428 firms employing 501 or more persons in 65 principal industrial centers. These identical firms employed 1,573,538 workers in May against 1,580,548 in April.

The number employed in tobacco manufacture decreased 5.5 per cent in May, while lumber and its manufacture fell off 2.9 per cent. The number of workers in iron and steel decreased 2.5 per cent, food and kindred products 7 per cent, chemicals 1 per cent and miscellaneous industries grouped together 4.9 per cent.

Increases in the number of employed were shown in railroad repair shops amounting to 8.4 per cent, in leather 4.3 per cent, vehicles for land transportation 3.8 per cent, textiles 2.7 per cent, stone and clay 2 per cent, beverages 1.9 per cent, and paper printing .4 per cent.

Percentages of increases and decreases in employment for the month of May are:

Increases in Employment		Decreases in Employment	
New York	3 %	Chicago	2.9%
Philadelphia	1.5%	Boston	3.2%
Detroit	13.3%	San Francisco	14.3%
Bayonne, N. J.	12.9%	Peoria, Ill.	11.8%
Seattle	9.8%	Perthamboy, N. J.	10.9%
Chattanooga	7.4%	Louisville	9.5%
Grand Rapids	7.3%	Patterson, N. J.	8.1%
Atlanta	6.1%	Buffalo	7.9%
Indianapolis	6.1%	Cincinnati	7.9%
		Birmingham	5.4%
		New Orleans	5.0%
		Richmond	2.9%

Reports received direct from all parts of the Sixth Federal Reserve District indicate plentiful supplies of all kinds of labor and a very definite improvement in the quality of service rendered. Numbers of those employed for the last two or three years at industrial centers have returned to farm work this year. The Alabama mining district is the scene of much unemployment by reason of limited operations and slack demand.

The marine strike was settled on June 14th, and shipping conditions at New Orleans are returning to normal. The principal point at issue in this port appeared to be the reinstatement of the striking marines and the retention of the non-union men employed.

A proposed wage reduction of 20 per cent has been advocated by the General Contractors' Association at New Orleans and is still under advisement. The reduction would affect men in all the building trades.

NAVAL STORES

After experiencing noticeable activity during April, the Naval Stores season seems to have settled down to one of continued small replacement orders, with a strong tendency among consumers to do only necessary buying and to stock up not at all. Labor troubles in paper making, and slack trade reported by paint and varnish manufacturers, coupled with the same condition in other consuming lines, are factors in the conditions prevailing in the Naval Stores Industry. A fairly good volume of small domestic orders, coupled with sales for export, have given some stimulus to the market since June 1st. Stocks of both turpentine and rosin were very much larger on May 31, 1921, than on the same date in 1920.

Naval Stores Report for Month of May for Four Years Receipts for the Month of May

TURPENTINE:

	1921	1920	1919	1918
Savannah	10,758	7,303	5,402	4,127
Jacksonville	10,544	11,260	8,822	8,547
Pensacola	4,466	4,204	4,183	2,065
	<u>25,768</u>	<u>22,767</u>	<u>18,407</u>	<u>14,699</u>

ROSIN:

	1921	1920	1919	1918
Savannah	27,149	20,590	13,123	14,563
Jacksonville	22,273	35,115	26,834	24,602
Pensacola	8,871	12,458	10,922	6,231
	<u>58,293</u>	<u>68,163</u>	<u>50,879</u>	<u>45,396</u>

Stocks of Turpentine May 31

	1921	1920	1919	1918
Savannah	9,312	1,672	7,634	22,467
Jacksonville	21,214	2,960	14,282	53,093
Pensacola	7,892	1,542	25,261	36,690
	<u>38,418</u>	<u>6,174</u>	<u>47,177</u>	<u>112,250</u>
Stocks at London of American Turpentine	*10,192	15,708	2,414	11,323
Totals	<u>48,610</u>	<u>21,882</u>	<u>49,591</u>	<u>123,578</u>
		<u>48,610</u>	<u>48,610</u>	<u>48,610</u>

Dec. or Inc. for 1921 as compared with other years I 26,728 D 981 D 74,968

* London for May 21, 1921.

Stocks of Rosins May 31

	1921	1920	1919	1918
Savannah	77,419	12,981	55,805	90,370
Jacksonville	177,495	39,911	122,447	145,179
Pensacola	57,593	25,221	51,046	46,641
Totals	<u>312,507</u>	<u>78,113</u>	<u>229,298</u>	<u>291,190</u>
		<u>312,507</u>	<u>312,507</u>	<u>312,507</u>

Dec. or Inc. for 1921 as compared with other years I 234,394 I 83,209 I 21,217

COAL

Coal production in Alabama declined in May, following the increase shown in April over March figures.

	1921	1920
January	1,268,089	1,683,331
February	1,020,049	1,251,430
March	820,852	1,261,608
April	951,086	*
May	735,000	*

(* Not reported.)

This falling off in production is attributed to the lack of demand, especially for steam coal. Railroad contracts let during the latter part of the month, however, to producers have caused a better feeling and will warrant resumption at a fairly good pace. The coke market shows a little improvement. Two or three of the independent companies have recently received contracts requiring deliveries through the summer.

Mining conditions in Tennessee are reported to have improved materially during May over those obtaining in April. The number of mines in operation has increased, and the number of cars loaded and tonnage produced was 25 per cent

larger than April production. Production reports received by the Southern Appalachian Coal Operators Association for May show 8,057 cars loaded, which, estimating each to contain 50 tons, indicate a total production of 402,850 tons. This is a gain of 1,684 cars, or 84,200 tons, over April production. Tennessee reports show improved demand for all grades of coal. Those mines now in operation, however, are running an average of only 3½ to 4 days a week.

IRON AND STEEL

While actual sales of pig-iron in the Birmingham district have not materially increased, the closing of May saw a more confident feeling prevailing, caused by an increase in inquiries from north of the Ohio River. Quotations are reported a little weak at \$22.50 but reports of lower prices turn out to be only rumor. Business now being done is practically all for immediate delivery. The tonnage on furnace yards in the Birmingham District shows an increase over that of last month. Foundries are getting in some new business, and some work which allows little or no profit is being accepted for the purpose of keeping labor intact in expectation of improvement. Some orders are being received from Mexico and Cuba. Four open hearth furnaces have recently been opened up by one of the larger companies.

Steel operations in the Birmingham District are at considerably less than capacity mark. There is considerable shipment of steel rails, plates and other shapes to foreign countries.

The demand for both iron and steel is limited, and is largely confined to small lots for prompt shipment. In May, 1920, orders were for extended shipments, and in large tonnages. Recent sales have been largely confined to local consumers, while last year the Birmingham District was selling iron practically all over the country and some tonnage for export. Gains in building and construction have caused increased sales of structural steel during April and May over the preceding months.

The cast iron pipe trade is slowly improving. Orders are being received and some increase in the melt has been noted, although there are large stocks already on hand.

UNFILLED ORDERS—U. S. STEEL CORPORATION.

The monthly tonnage of the United States Steel Corporation's unfilled orders on May 31 was stated to be 5,482,487 tons, which is a decrease of 362,737 tons during May. Monthly figures for 1921 compared with 1920 are:

	1921 (Tons)	1920 (Tons)
January 31	7,573,164	9,285,441
February 28	6,933,867	9,502,081
March 31	6,284,765	9,892,075
April 30	5,845,224	10,359,747
May 31	5,482,487	10,940,465

FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

In the Northern Hemisphere at this season of the year interest in agriculture centers chiefly in the prospects of the autumn-sown cereals and the seeding of spring crops. Generally speaking, active prosecution of spring field work throughout the Northern Hemisphere has attended the mild weather prevailing, which has been accompanied by the quickened growth of autumn sown crops. This is especially true of Canada, where weather conditions continue exceptionally mild and spring work is progressing freely.

In France, on the whole, the autumn-sown cereals present a satisfactory appearance and those of spring, although more or less retarded by the drought, have made a fairly good start. In Alsace-Lorraine the winter has been cold and dry. The first sowings have come up well. The others have suffered from want of rain, although they profited somewhat from the rain which fell in December. No damage has been produced by the frost. In Germany the general crop situation is reported to be satisfactory. Scattered rains have fallen lately, but more moisture would be of benefit to the growing cereals. Unofficial sources have advised that the early sown fields of winter grains are in good condition, but the later sown plants have been somewhat damaged by frosts. From Russia there is still a lack of reliable crop news.

In the United Kingdom the weather during March was generally favorable for farming operations, being for the greater part of the month mild and dry with a few colder days toward the end. Cultivation is much more forward than usual for this time of the year in most parts of the country. Reports indicate that the area sown with wheat and oats, respectively, will be about the same as last year and that the extent of land under barley will be less. In Sweden the mild temperature and warm weather which has generally prevailed this year continues. As a result of the early spring, vegetation is reported to be approximately five weeks earlier than usual. The country has had a dry winter and a dry spring and as the ground is not protected by snow there is much fear of frost. Rain is needed for the spring sowing of barley and oats but the prospects of winter wheat are good. In Denmark the condition of the winter crops is considered favorable. The weather has been exceptionally mild and spring sowings are progressing satisfactorily. In Belgium during February mild dry weather prevailed and winter cereals as a result appear to be in rather fine condition. Work on the spring sowings is being carried on under favorable conditions. No definite news has been received from Poland, but indications are that the winter wheat area will be somewhat smaller than a year ago. In Hungary the developments of the autumn-sown cereals and all agricultural work has been favored by the weather, and the condition of the crops is considered very good. Although the snowfall has been light, there are no complaints of frost damage, but in some districts resowings may be made necessary through the injurious effects of field mice.

In Austria the favorable weather which has been experienced recently has had a good effect upon the development of the crops. Spring cultivation commenced about the middle

of March and autumn-sown cereals are doing fairly well. In Roumania fine, warm weather prevailed throughout the whole of March, which enabled plowing and sowing of spring cereals to proceed without interruption; however, rain is now required particularly for the winter crops. In Jugo-Slavia, according to unofficial reports the crop outlook for this year is not at all bright. The area sown in winter wheat was greatly below normal. This was due to lack of seed wheat. The Government has taken measures to remedy this condition and has secured a large supply of spring wheat which was sold to the farmers at reduced prices, and the deficiency in acreage sown was made up with spring wheat. However, the sowing of spring wheat is an innovation in this country, and the farming element is not at all optimistic as to the outcome. The lack of rain for the past two months has increased the pessimism with regard to the harvest; and if no rainfall takes place shortly, it is feared the crops will be seriously affected.

The crop outlook in Italy is about average. Work for spring sowing is being carried on under favorable conditions. The season has been, in general, dry and mild, facilitating field work, especially for the spring sowings. The condition of autumn cereals on March 1 was reported about normal. The crop situation in Spain is reported as satisfactory.

In Indian climatic conditions continue to be reported as

unfavorable. Rain is needed in practically all the provinces and at present there is no relief in sight. According to the latest reports the total area of wheat for the season 1920-21 is now estimated at 23,563,000 acres, as against 28,533,000 acres at the corresponding time last year, or a decrease of 17 per cent. The total area under rape and mustard, so far as reported, amounts to 2,793,000 acres (excluding the "mixed" crop of the United Provinces for which no estimate is at present available). This is 22 per cent below the revised figure at the corresponding time last year.

In North Africa recent reports indicate that the climatic conditions continue to be of a most favorable character. In Algeria the autumn sowing of cereals is finished and the crop situation is highly satisfactory. In Tunis there have been liberal falls of rain and the crop situation is much improved, while from Morocco reports indicate the existence of a very favorable condition for the crops, especially that of barley. In Egypt the weather on the whole has been favorable and the water supply sufficient. The crop prospects are satisfactory, although slight attacks of rust and smut have been noticed lately.

In the Southern Hemisphere, corn harvesting and the preparation of beds for the cereal harvest in the winter of 1921-22 are being actively pursued, with weather and soil conditions generally satisfactory.

