# MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW

Covering Conditions in the Sixth Federal Reserve District.

#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK ATLANTA OF

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(Compiled December 16, 1926)

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#### BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. (Prepared by the Federal Reserve Board.)

PER CENT

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Activity in manufacturing industries decreased in November and December, while production of important minerals continued at a high level. Wholesale prices declined to the lowest level in more than two years. Firmer money conditions in December reflected the usual seasonal requirements in connection with holiday and end-of-year activity.

Production Factory employment and pay rolls declined in November, reflecting decreased activity in many important industries, but owing to the large output of minerals, the Federal Reserve Board's index of production in basic industries advanced somewhat during the month. Production of bituminous coal and petroleum in recent weeks has exceeded all previous records, and output of copper and zinc during the month of November was in unusually large volume. Pig iron production of the production o duction also increased slightly in November, but steel mill operations in that month and in December were considerably reduced. Automobile production, which is not included in the index of production in basic industries, declined sharply in November for the second consecutive month, and was smaller than in any month since August, 1925. Textile mill activity was maintained during November at approximately the same rate as in October. The value of building contracts awarded showed less than the usual seasonal decline in November, and was slightly larger

ponding period of last year. Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture estimates the value of 55 principal crops raised in 1926, on the basis of December 1 farm prices, at \$7,802,000,000 compared with \$8,950,000,000 in 1925. Of the decrease in the value of crops, the decline in the value of the cotton crop accounts for \$500,000,000, and that of the corn crop for about \$260,000,000, while the total value of the wheat crop increased by nearly \$40,000,000.

than in November, 1925. Awards for the first half of De-

cember likewise exceeded those reported in the corres-

In November distribution of merchandise at wholesale and retail showed the usual decline from the activity earlier in the autum. Compared with a year ago, however, wholesale trade was in about the same volume and retail trade larger. Sales of department stores were about 7 per cent larger than last year, and those of leading mail order houses were six

per cent larger. Stocks of merchandise carried by wholesale firms decreased further in November and were smaller at the end of the month than a year ago. Inventories of department stores, however, increased slightly more than is usual in November. Freight car loadings declined considerably in November and December from the record high levels of October, although the movement of coal continued heavy.

Prices The general level of wholesale prices declined in November and prices of many important basic commodities decreased further in the first half of December. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' index of wholesale commodities prices for November was 148, the lowest level since July 1924. Bituminous coal prices increased sharply during October and the early part of November, but in recent weeks have declined by about two-thirds of the previous rise. Petroleum prices have been reduced since early in November, and there have also been declines in pig iron, copper, zinc, lead, and silver. The fall in prices of agricultural commodities, which has lasted with few interruptions for over a year, continued in November. Grains, however, have risen somewhat since the latter part of that month. The clothing-materials and house-furnishings groups have declined steadily in price during recent months to the lowest levels of the post-war period.

Bank Credit
Loans and investments of member banks in leading cities increased by over \$100,000,000 during the four weeks ending December 15, reflecting in part the growth in the demand for credit and currency that usually occurs in December. The increase was in loans on securities, while commercial loans declined somewhat from their seasonal high point in No-

The volume of reserve bank credit showed the usual seasonal increase after the middle of November but was lower than in the corresponding period of 1925, partly because there was a smaller increase this year in the amount of money in circulation.

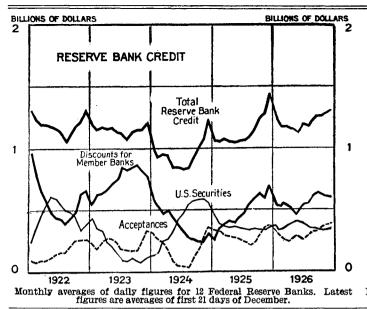
Money market conditions became slightly firmer in December than at the end of November. Commercial paper rates were unchanged but open-market rates on bankers' acceptances advanced by one eighth of one per cent and call rates on security loans averaged higher for the month.



150 150 100 100 50 50 WHOLESALE PRICES 1925 1923 1924 1922 Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1913-100, base adopted

Digitized Federal Reserve Board's indexes of factory employment and payrolls http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis





Index of value of building contracts awarded as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, (1919–100). Latest figure November 188.

#### SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY.

The series of business statistics relating to the Sixth Federal reserve district continue in most instances to compare favorably with those of last year. Retail trade in the sixth district during 1926 has exceeded the volume reported for each month of 1925 excepting for October, and for the year through November retail sales by 45 department stores have averaged 5.0 per cent greater than for the same period of Wholesale trade during the first six months of 1926 was greater than during the same months of 1925, but since the beginning of the last half of the year has been in smaller volume than in the corresponding months last year. In connection with wholesale trade, however, it should be noted that the level of wholesale prices has been lower than that which prevailed a year ago, and the latest statement compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the general index number of wholesale prices of 404 commodities for November was 148.1, compared with 157.7 for November last year, a decline of 6.1 per cent. Savings deposits reported to the Federal Reserve Bank by 91 banks in the district were 2.5 per cent greater at the end of November than a year ago, the increase in savings over last year showing a steady decline during 1926 from the high point of 15.2 per cent in January. Debits to Individual Accounts at 23 cities in the district during November were 8.6 per cent smaller in total volume than during November 1925. Total loans and discounts on December 8 of 35 reporting member banks in the district were \$8,397,000 less in volume than a year ago. Time deposits reported by these banks were \$6,924,000 greater than a year ago, but their demand deposits were \$32,888,000 less than at that time. Total discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for member banks on December 8 was \$46,869,000, compared with \$25,039,000 on the corresponding report date last year. Building permits issued at 20 reporting cities of the district during November were 36.7 per cent smaller in value than were recorded for November 1925, and contracts awarded in this district showed a decrease of 13.3 per cent. The consumption of cotton in the cotton-growing states during November was the greatest, with one exception, recorded during the past seven years. Production of cloth in the sixth district was somewhat less than in November a year ago, but the output of yarn was 1.5 per cent greater. Coal production in Alabama was greater for each week in November than a year ago, and the November production of pig iron in Alabama was the greatest for any month in six years. Average prices of turpentine and rosin during November were somewhat lower than in October or in November 1925.

#### RETAIL TRADE.

The volume of retail trade in the sixth district during November, reflected in sales by 45 representatives department stores located throughout the district, was not as great as in October. This is, however, usual for this time of the year, as during the past seven years November sales by these department stores have exceeded October sales in only one instance, 1924. The greatest volume of fall buying is usually done in October, with a decrease in November, and the holiday trade in December carries the total volume of retail trade to the highest level for the year. November sales this year averaged 5.6 per cent greater than in November 1925, and for the eleven months of 1926 the volume of sales has been 5.0 per cent greater than in the corresponding period of 1925. Stocks of merchandise reported on hand at the end of November were 0.8 per cent smaller than a month ago, but were 5.2 per cent greater than a year ago. The rate of turnover, reflected in the ratio of sales to average stocks, was less rapid in November, and for the year so far, than for corresponding periods of last year. Outstanding orders at the end of November were 22.1 per cent less than a month ago, and 13.7 per cent less than at the same time last year. Accounts receivable were 6.0 per cent greater than at the end of October, and 16.9 per cent greater than at the end of October, and 16.9 per cent greater than at the end of November 1925. November cent greater than at the end of November 1925. November collections were 14.9 per cent greater than in October, and 1.4 per cent greater than in November last year. ratio of collections during November to accounts outstanding and due at the beginning of the month for 24 firms was 35.2 per cent.

CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING NOVEMBER 1926 IN THE SIXTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT BASED UPON REPORTS FROM 45 STORES

|  |  | percentage<br>or decrease<br>with:                           | Stocks at end of month. percentage increase or decrease compared with:                             |  | Percentage of sales to average stocks in Nov. (stock turnover for the month): |  | Percentage of sales to average stocks from Jan. 1 to Nov. 30 (Stock turnover for year to date) |  | Percentage of outstanding orders at end of month to purchases during calendar year. 1925: |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|  | (A)<br>Nov. 1925   | (B)<br>Jan. 1 to<br>Nov. 30, 1925                            | (A)<br>Nov. 1925   | Oct. 1926  | (A)<br>1925   | (B)<br>1926  | (A)<br>1925  | (B)<br>1926  | (A)<br>Oct.   | (B)<br>Nov.  |
| Atlanta (4) Birmingham (5) Chattanooga (6) Nashville (5) New Orleans (5) Sayannah (3) Other Cittles (17) DISTRICT (45) | $egin{array}{c} +\ 4.7 \\ +\ 3.3 \\ +\ 7.7 \\ +\ 2.2 \\ +\ 12.0 \\ -\ 0.9 \\ -\ 2.6 \\ +\ 5.6 \end{array}$ | +8.4<br>+6.7<br>+2.8<br>-0.4<br>+2.4<br>+8.5<br>+8.3<br>+5.0 | $egin{array}{c} +\ 4.3 \\ +23.3 \\ +\ 6.8 \\ -\ 7.6 \\ +\ 15.1 \\ +\ 6.3 \\ +\ 5.2 \\ \end{array}$ | +1.8<br>+4.5<br>-7.7<br>+2.5<br>-3.6<br>-3.2<br>+0.5<br>-0.8 | 31.9<br>26.6<br>22.0<br>25.4<br>25.1<br>27.1<br>29.3<br>26.8                  | 31.6<br>22.0<br>21.2<br>27.6<br>26.1<br>22.8<br>25.1<br>25.8 | 320.7<br>273.4<br>212.0<br>268.4<br>247.4<br>250.2<br>265.5<br>263.5                           | 336.7<br>235.5<br>218.7<br>278.6<br>234.4<br>242.4<br>262.7<br>256.8 | 4.3<br>4.6<br>3.2<br>4.6<br>11.7<br>8.8<br>6.3<br>7.0                                     | 3.7<br>4.1<br>0.1<br>3.6<br>9.5<br>4.7<br>4.5<br>5.5 |

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#### WHOLESALE TRADE

The volume of business at wholesale in the sixth district in eight different lines showed seasonal recessions during November, and in all of these lines except drugs, sales in November were smaller than in the same month last year. The index number of sales by wholesale firms dealing in groceries, dry goods, hardware and shoes, which have been regularly reporting since 1919, is 90.6 per cent for November, compared with 100.1 for October, and with 99.9 for November 1925. With the exception, however, of November last year, the current index number is higher than for November of any other year in the series, which began in 1920. In the tables which follow are shown percentage comparisons of sales in these eight lines, and comparisons in each line are shown separately for those cities from which three or more reports were received.

Groceries

November sales of groceries at wholesale by 36 reporting firms in the district were 6.4 per cent smaller in total volume than in October, and were 10.4 per cent less than in November last year. Increases at New Orleans compared with October, and at Other Cities compared with November a year ago, were outweighed in the district average by decreases at other points. Some of the reports indicate some weakening of prices during November. Accounts receivable were 1.1 per cent less than for October, and 9.2 per cent less than a year ago, and collections were 2.8 per cent smaller than in October, and 17.6 per cent smaller than in November last year.

| No                      | vember 1926 compa | ared with:   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                         | Oct. 1926         | Nov. 1925    |
| Atlanta (5 firms)       | <b>- 0.6</b>      | 3.5          |
| Jacksonville (4 firms)  |                   | -23.0        |
| Meridian (3 firms)      |                   | 13.2         |
| New Orleans (8 firms)   | - + 3.6           | <b>- 9.7</b> |
| Vicksburg (3 firms)     | -28.5             | 11.2         |
| Other Cities (13 firms) | 5.7               | + 2.7        |
| DISTRICT (36 firms)     | 6.4               | -10.4        |

Dry Goods

Dry goods sales at wholesale during
November by 22 reporting firms averaged 16.3 per cent smaller in the aggregate than in October,
and were 3.8 per cent less than in November last year.
According to some of these reports prices continued to
decline slightly in November because of the lower level of
cotton prices. Stocks on hand at the end of November
were 6.2 per cent smaller than a month earlier, but were
15.3 per cent greater than at the end of November 1925.
Accounts receivable at the close of November were 3.8 percent less than a month earlier, and were 0.3 perc ent less
than at the same time last year. November collections exceeded those in October by 3.6 per cent, but were 10.3 per
cent smaller than in November 1925.

| Nove                    | vember 1926 compared with: |           |  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--|
|                         | Oct. 1926                  | Nov. 1925 |  |
| Atlanta (3 firms)       | -24.5                      | -0.6      |  |
| Nashville (3 firms)     | 4.1                        | 0.3       |  |
| Other Cities (16 firms) | -19.9                      | -4.8      |  |
| DISTRICT (22 firms)     | -16.3                      | -3.8      |  |

Hardware

November sales of hardware at wholesale were smaller at all reporting cities
of the district than in October, and were less than during
November 1925 at all reporting cities except New Orleans.
Stocks on hand at the end of the month were 0.2 per cent
less than at the end of October, but were 1.0 per cent
greater than a year ago. Accounts Receivable were 2.5
per cent smaller than a month ago, but were 4.0 per cent
greater than for November 1925. Collections were 2.7 per
cent less than during October, but were 1.2 per cent greater
than in November last year.

| Nove                    | mber 1926 com | pared with: |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|
|                         | Oct. 1926     | Nov. 1925   |
| Atlanta (3 firms)       | -8.0          | 25.3        |
| Jacksonville (3 firms)  | 4.4           | -26.0       |
| Nashville (3 firms)     | -13.1         | - 0.4       |
| New Orleans (5 firms)   | 1.0           | +4.4        |
| Other Cities (14 firms) | 9.7           | -18.0       |
| DISTRICT (28 firms)     | _ 7 1         | _10 g       |

Furniture

Wholesale furniture sales by 12 firms in the district during November were 9.3 per cent less in total volume than in October, and averaged 21.7 per cent less than in November last year. Stocks on hand at the end of November were 3.7 per cent greater than a month earlier, but were 1.0 per cent smaller than a year ago. Accounts receivable at the end of the month were 0.8 per cent greater than a month ago, but 2.6 per cent smaller than a year ago. Collections during November were 8.7 per cent smaller than in October, and 20.7 per cent smaller than in November 1925.

| Nove                   | mber 1926 comi | pared with: |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
|                        | Oct. 1926      | Nov. 1925   |
| Atlanta (4 firms)      | -2.0           | -46.4       |
| Chattanooga (3 firms)  |                | -3.7        |
| Other Cities (7 firms) |                | -20.9       |
| DISTRICT (14 firms)    | -9.3           | -21.7       |

Electrical Supplies
Sales during November of electrical supplies at wholesale, reported by 12 firms, averaged 7.8 per cent smaller than in October, although a small increase was shown for Other Cities. November sales averaged 26.6 per cent less than in the same month last year. Stocks on hand at the end of the month were 1.1 per cent smaller than a month ago, but were 7.1 per cent greater than a year ago. Accounts receivable decreased 9.0 per cent compared with October, and were 20.6 per cent smaller than for November last year. Cellections during November were 8.8 per cent greater than in in October, and 5.5 per cent greater than in November 1925.

| Nove                   | mber 1926 com |              |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                        | Oct. 1926     | Nov. 1925    |
| Atlanta (3 firms)      | 8.8           | -26.1        |
| New Orleans (4 firms)  | -14.0         | <b>— 4.5</b> |
| Other Cities (5 firms) | + 0.9         | 40.3         |
| DISTRICT (12 firms)    | -7.8          | -26.6        |

Sales comparisons in the other three lines are shown only for the district, as three reports in any of these lines were not received from any single city. Sales in all three lines were smaller in volume than in October, and while sales of drugs were 4.8 per cent greater than in November 1925, decreases were shown in shoes and stationery compared with that month.

| Nove                 | ember 1926 com |           |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------|
|                      | Oct. 1926      | Nov. 1925 |
| Shoes (7 firms)      | - 8.2          | 2.9       |
| Stationery (4 firms) |                | -17.4     |
| Drugs (5 firms)      | -7.3           | + 4.8     |

#### AGRICULTURE.

Cotton The latest report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, based upon conditions on December 1, indicates a further

based upon conditions on December 1, indicates a further increase in the seasons cotton crop, the largest ever produced. After making allowance for the probability of some loss of open cotton from beating storms and from the tentendency of growers to leave low grade cotton unpicked because of the low price and expense of picking, the Department estimates the crop at 18,618,000 bales. This is greater by 2½ million bales than the large crop produced in 1925, and nearly 5 million bales greater than the 1924 crop. This latest report indicates that in the six states of this district the crop is 246,000 bales greater than in 1925, but this does not take into consideration that parts of Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana are located in other Federal Reserve districts. The increase over 1925 in this district is due to larger crops in Alabama and Georgia, as production in other four states is smaller this year than last. The report indicates that the acreage abandonment has amounted to 2.9 per cent of the acreage in cultivation on June 25. In this district the abandonment averages 1.9 per cent. In the table are shown the latest estimates by states of this season's crop, and ginnings prior to December 1, together with similar figures for last year.

|                                      | Estimated<br>Production<br>1926 | Final<br>Production<br>1925 | Ginnings to<br>Dec. 1,<br>1926 | o Ginnings<br>to Dec. 1,<br>1925 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| AlabamaFlorida                       |                                 | 1,356,719<br>38,182         | 1,350,884<br>31,865            | 1,300,799<br>39,448              |
| Georgia<br>Louisiana                 | 1,475,000                       | 1,163,885<br>910,468        | 1,284,090<br>740,733           | 1,165,994<br>826,356             |
| Mississippi                          | 1,930,000                       | 1,990,537<br>517,276        | 1,553,696<br>357,396           | 1,570,048<br>406,661             |
| Tennessee<br>United States           | 18,618,000                      | 16,103,679                  | 14,644,966                     | 13,870,507                       |
| Note: Parts of Te<br>in other Federa |                                 |                             | MISSISSIDDI                    | are situated                     |

### Cotton Movement—Sixth District.

|             | Nov. 1926 | Oct. 1926 | Nov. 1925 |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Receipts:   |           |           |           |
| New Orleans | 518,446   | 532,355   | 379.801   |
| Mobile      | 89,576    | 106.085   | 33.527    |
| Savannah    |           | 225,449   | 87,541    |
| Atlanta     | . 59,149  | 81,557    | 39,354    |
| Augusta     | 45,236    | 83,660    | 39,610    |
| Montgomery  | 23,877    | 40,556    | 9,597     |
| Stocks:     |           | •         |           |
| New Orleans | 648,823   | 512,356   | 451,015   |
| Mobile      | . 76,791  | 44,947    | 28,302    |
| Savannah    | 170,338   | 185,892   | 129,514   |
| Atlanta     | . 87,444  | 75.247    | 60,637    |
| Augusta     |           | 110,110   | 110,727   |
| Montgomery  |           | 23,486    | 28,710    |

## Cotton Movement (Bales) United States. Since August 1.

|                              | _            |            |                 |           |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
|                              | 1926         | 1925       | 1924            | 1923      |
| Receipts at all U.S. Ports   | 6.910.784    | 5,578,640  | 5.071.046       | 3.971.270 |
| Overland across the          |              |            |                 |           |
| Mississippi, Ohio and        |              |            |                 |           |
| Potomac Rivers to            |              |            |                 |           |
| Nor, mills and Can-          |              |            |                 |           |
| ada                          | 538,840      | 690,652    | 495,352         | 373,221   |
| Interior stock in excess     | •            |            |                 |           |
| of those held at close       |              |            |                 |           |
| of commercial year           | 709,227      | 1,404,869  | 1,116,840       | 764,594   |
| Southern Mills takings       |              |            |                 |           |
| net                          | 2,262,000    |            | 1,856,636       | 1,641,255 |
| Foreign exports              | 4,325,326    | 3,829,445  | *******         |           |
| *American Mills N. & S.      |              |            |                 |           |
| & Canada                     | 3,382,084    | 3,373,495  |                 |           |
| Total for 125 days           | 10,420,851   | 9,724,877  | 8,339,874       | 6,750,340 |
| American cotton thus far     | 6,261,000    | 6,000,000  | 4,871,000       |           |
| *Of which 884,278 by North   | hern spini   | ners agair | st 1.142.559    | last vear |
| and 2.497,806 by Souther     | n spinner    | s against  | 2.230.936 las   | st vear   |
| CHILLY MAZOLIONO DA DOCULLOI | 11 001111101 | 2 MOUITING | ~, woo, boo 100 | o o car.  |

#### Sugar Cane and Sugar

Weather conditions in the Louisiana cane belt during the latter part of November and early December were,

for the most part, favorable for harvesting the cane crop. Harvesting has progressed rapidly and a number of factories have completed their grinding. Press reports indicate that the returns are disappointing, both in the tonnage yield per acre and in the sugar content of the cane.

| Movement of Sugar.                        |                                |   |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Raw Su                                    | gar(Pou                        | unds)   |   |  |
|   | Nov. 1926                      | Oct. 1926   | Nov. 1925                               |  |
| Receipts: New Orleans Savannah            | 114,023,567<br>28,265,661      | 125,855,240<br>24,238,018                               | 48,464.218<br>22,054,834                |  |
| Meltings:<br>New Orleans<br>Savannah      | 97,408,762<br>30,253,386       | 142,436,753<br>34,574,141                               | 41,745,727<br>22,054,834                |  |
| Stocks:<br>New Orleans<br>Savannah        |                                | 22,119,367<br>1,987,725                                 | 8,459,481                               |  |
| Refined St                                | ıgar—(Po                       | unds)   |   |  |
| Shipments:<br>New Orleans<br>Savannah     | 90,936,982<br>22,585,243       | 121,428,499<br>28,266,433                               | 71,415,679<br>21,646,178                |  |
| Stocks:<br>New Orleans<br>Savannah        | 79,310,519<br>15,167,619       | $\begin{array}{c} 77,128,015 \\ 12,953,959 \end{array}$ | 11,421,445<br>1,646,867                 |  |
|   | RICE.                          |   |   |  |
| Rough Rice (Sack                          | s) Port of                     | f New Orle  | ans.                                    |  |
| ReceiptsShipmentsStock                    | Nov. 1926<br>84,348<br>104,798 | Oct. 1926<br>105,289<br>96,389<br>49,208                | Nov. 1925<br>78,948<br>68,553<br>26,923 |  |
| Clean Rice (Pockets) Port of New Orleans. |                                |   |   |  |
| ReceiptsShipmentsStock                    | 329,402<br>307,692             | 258,895<br>259,205<br>124,145                           | 190,724<br>172,564<br>122,684           |  |

# Receipts, Distribution and Stock (barrels) (Furnished by Rice Millers Association) Receipts of Rough Rice.

| Season of 1926-27<br>Season of 1925-26 | November<br>1,252,887<br>1,130,866 | Season<br>Totals<br>4,341,477<br>3,475,718 |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Distribution of Mille                  | d Rice.                            |  |
| Season of 1926-27                      |                                    | 3,139,364<br>2,611,287                     |
| Stocks                                 |                                    |  |
| December 1, 1926<br>December 1, 1925   | 2,196,817<br>1,090,571             |  |

#### FINANCIAL.

Savings Deposits

Savings deposits at the end of November, reported by 91 banks in the sixth district, declined seventenths of one per cent compared with the preceding month, October, and were 2.5 per cent greater than at the end of November 1925. While these monthly figures still show increases over 1925, it is significant that, beginning in January with an increase of 15.2 per cent, the gain over the corresponding month last year has been steadily smaller each month during the year, with the exception of March, when a fractionally larger increase was shown than in February. Totals, with percentage comparisons, are shown in the table for Federal reserve bank and branch cities:

## Saving Deposits. (000 Omitted)

| ·                       |           |           | Comp  | ari- C    | ompari-   |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|
|                         |           | •         | son   |           | son       |
|                         | Nov.      | Oct. No   | vOct. | Nov.      | Nov.      |
|                         | 1926      | 1926      | 1926  | 1925      | 1926-1925 |
| Atlanta (7 banks)       | \$ 37,821 | \$ 37,306 | +1.4  | \$ 34,691 | + 9.0     |
| Birmingham (5 banks)    | 24,595    | 24,729    | -0.5  | 24,430    |           |
| Jacksonville (5 banks)  | 28,926    | 28,772    | +0.5  | 27,813    | +4.0      |
| Nashville (10 banks)    | 26,084    | 25,846    | +0.9  | 23,619    | +10.4     |
| New Orleans (8 banks)   | 47,047    | 47,267    | -0.5  | 48,138    | -2.3      |
| Other Cities (56 banks) |           | 110,154   | -2.3  | 106,856   |           |
| Total (91 banks)        | 272,063   | 274,074   | -0.7  | 265,547   | ' + 2.5   |

Debits to Individual Following a seasonal increase of 14.5 Accounts

per cent in the total volume of debits to individual accounts at 23 reporting

cities in the sixth district in October, compared with September, the total of debits at these 23 cities in November declined 16.1 per cent compared with the October total. Last year, debits to individual accounts in November declined 15.6 per cent compared with October 1925. Total debits in November this year were 8.6 per cent less than in November 1925, and in October this year the total was 8.1 per cent smaller than in October 1925. Monthly figures, shown in the table below, are derived from weekly reports by prorating the figures for those weeks which do not fall entirely within a single calendar month.

#### (000 Omitted)

| <b>(</b>                           | ,          |                      |               |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------|
| ]                                  | Nov. 1926  | Oct. 1926            | Nov. 1925     |
| Alabama:                           |            |                      |               |
| Birmingham                         | 141,599    | 156,653              | 131,265       |
| Dothan                             | 3,431      | 4,203                | 4.668         |
| Mobile                             | 40.973     | 34,440               | 33,946        |
| Montgomery                         | 23,614     |                      | 23,642        |
|                                    | 20,014     | 26,457               | 20,042        |
| Florida:                           |            |                      |               |
| Jacksonville                       | 93,300     | 107,467              | 120,079       |
| Pensacola                          | 7,785      | 9,000                | 9,851         |
| Tampa                              | 61,822     | 65,561               | 93,922        |
| Georgia:                           |            |                      |               |
| Albany                             | 4,984      | 6,128                | 5.580         |
| Atlanta                            | 156,909    | 174,848              | 162,592       |
| Augusta                            | 26,029     | 32,602               | 29,943        |
| Brunswick                          | 3,282      | 3,633                | 3,308         |
| Columbus                           | 13,948     | 14,068               | 15,128        |
| Columbus                           | 1,009      | 1,084                | 1,045         |
| Elberton                           |            |                      | 24.571        |
| Macon                              | 23,963     | 27,859               |               |
| Newnan                             | 2,299      | 3,350                | 2,231         |
| Sayannah                           | 56,296     | 63,600               | 51,465        |
| Valdosta                           | 6,011      | 6,486                | 5,996         |
| Louisiana:                         |            |                      |               |
| New Orleans                        | 300,423    | 408,699              | 364.147       |
| Mississippi:                       |            |                      |               |
| *Jackson                           | 20,999     | 23.387               |               |
| Meridian                           | 15,316     | 16,909               | 14,778        |
|                                    | 8,178      | 9.241                | 8,983         |
| Vicksburg                          | 0,110      | 8,441                | 0,900         |
| Tennessee:                         |            |                      |               |
| Chattanooga                        | 47,860     | 64,150               | 44,995        |
| Knoxville                          | 32,757     | 35,714               | 30,739        |
| Nashville                          | 79,070     | 89,181               | 76,771        |
| Total 23 Cities\$1                 | 150 050    | <b>e</b> 1 279 442   | \$1,259,645   |
|                                    |            | \$1, <b>3</b> 72,443 | . ,           |
| *Jackson not included in totals du | ie to inco | omplete figu         | res for 1925. |

Condition of Member Banks in Selected weekly by member banks located in Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Nashville, Chattanooga,

Knoxville and Savannah on December 8 were approximately two million dollars greater than was recorded four weeks earlier, shown in the November Review. Holdings of United States securities and of other stocks and bonds decreased, and the total of loans, discounts and investments on December 8 was \$598,000 greater than on November 10. Time deposits reported by these banks decreased \$1,024,000, and demand deposits decreased \$2,736,000 between these reporting periods.

The highest level reached so far in 1926 by the total loans and discounts of these reporting member banks was \$529,-611,000 on October 6. In 1925, the highest point for the year was reached on November 10, when total loans and discounts amounted to \$535,160,000. Demand deposits on the second reporting date of 1926 were approximately \$375,-000,000 and by the end of June had declined about 45 million dollars, to a level less than 3 million dollars below the total for December 8. Time deposits reported by these banks early in January amounted to about 220 millions, but declined to approximately 216 millions on February 17, and increased to nearly 227 millions by the end of June. During the last half of the year time deposits of these banks have ranged between that level and 215 millions, and on December 8 were \$224,080,000. Principal items in the weekly report are shown in the table, with similar figures four weeks ago, and for the corresponding report date last year:

#### Member Banks in Selected Cities.

#### (000 Omitted)

|                                | Dec. 8.         | Nov.10,  | Dec. 9, |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|
|                                | 1926            | 1926     | 1925    |
| Bills Discounted:              |                 |          |         |
| Secured by Govt. Obligation    | <b>\$</b> 5,573 | \$ 5,611 | \$8,333 |
| Secured by Stocks and Bonds    | 108.233         | 103,162  | 93,957  |
| All Other                      |                 | 410,804  | 427,731 |
| Total Discounts                |                 | 519.577  | 530.021 |
| U. S. Securities               |                 | 38,927   | 41,699  |
| Other Stocks and Bonds         | 58,801          | 59,485   | 49.522  |
| Total Loans, Discounts and In- | -               |          |         |
| vestments                      |                 | 617,989  | 621,242 |
| Time Deposits                  |                 | 225,104  | 217,156 |
| Demand Deposits                |                 | 335,604  | 365,756 |
| Accommodation at F. R. Bank    |                 | 24,627   | 16,966  |

#### Operations of the Federal Reserve Bank

Total discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for its member banks increased \$880,000 during the four weeks period between November 10 and December 8, due to an increase

in loans secured by government obligations. Holdings in loans secured by government obligations. Holdings of bills bought in the open market declined \$11,621,000 during this period, but United States securities owned increased only \$2,000. Total bills and securities on December 8 were \$10,740,000 less than on November 10. Reserve deposits decreased \$554,000, and Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation declined by \$5,314,000, while cash reserves increased \$6,562,000. As a result of these fluctuations the reserve ratio increased from 66.7 on November tions the reserve ratio increased from 66.7 on November 10 to 71.1 on December 8.

Total discounts for member banks by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta reached the high point so far for 1926 on September 29, when the total was \$58,639,834, and have since that time declined to \$46,869,504 on December 8. Holdings of United States securities up to the middle of April 1926 ranged between 15 and 19 millions, but by the middle of June declined to \$1,849,000, and with the exception of the last week in June and first week in July have fluctuated between \$1,800,000 and \$2,000,000 since that time. Holdings of bills bought in the open market at the beginning of 1926 totaled nearly 70 millions, but by April 7 had declined to \$10,802,640, the lowest point so far recorded this year. From that date through the middle of September holdings of these bills ranged between 20 and 30 millions, and from September through November between 30 and 37 millions. Principal items in the weekly statement, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

#### Federal Reserve Bank.

#### (000 Omitted)

| Dec. 8.   | Nov. 10.  | Dec. 9,   |
|-----------|---|---|
| 1926      | 1926  | 1925  |
|           |   |   |
| \$ 5,356  | \$ 4,376  | \$ 3.810  |
| 41,513    | 41,613  | 21,228  |
| 46,869    | 45,989  | 25.039  |
| 25,552    | 37,173  | 67,556  |
| 1.885     | 1.883   | 15,290  |
| 74,306    | 85.046  | 108,225   |
| . 167.472 | 160,910   | 136,082   |
| 69.478    | 70,032  | 82,236  |
| 166.068   |   | 161,173   |
|           |   | 55.9  |
|           | 1926<br>\$ 5,356<br>41,513<br>46,869<br>25,552<br>1,885<br>74,306<br>167,472<br>69,478<br>166,068 | 1926 1926<br>\$ \$ 5,356 \$ 4,376<br>41,513 41,613<br>46,869 45,989<br>25,552 37,173<br>1,885 1,883<br>74,306 85,046<br>167,472 160,910<br>69,478 70,032<br>166,068 171,382 |

### Commercial

Statistics compiled by R. G. Dun & Co. indicate a greater total number of failures in the United States in Novem-

ber than in October, but liabilities of firms which failed were slightly smaller. The same is true to a greater extent in comparing figures for November this year and last. In the sixth district the number of failures in November is considerably and the sixth district the number of the sixth dist considerably smaller than in October, but greater than in November 1925, and the total of liabilities is smaller than for either of those months. In the table are shown failures for the United States, divided by Federal reserve districts:

|               | Numi     | er Liabilities | Liabilities  | Liabilities  |
|---------------|----------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Districts     | Nov. 192 | 6 Nov. 1926    | Oct. 1926    | Nov. 1925    |
| Boston        |          | \$ 3,425,829   | \$ 2,791,209 | \$ 2,118,334 |
| New York      | 363      | 5,931,843      | 7,056,807    | 5,734,875    |
| Philadelphia  | 72       | 2,620,000      | 2,540,877    | 1.011.228    |
| Cleveland     | 134      | 2,775,023      | 2,572,720    | 3,428,114    |
| Richmond      |          | 3,067,845      | 3,394,205    | 1,631,370    |
| Atlanta       | 92       | 1,875,122      | 2,171,336    | 2,065,090    |
| Chicago       | 237      | 5.633.337      | 5.566.978    | 7,065,391    |
| St. Louis     |          | 806,848        | 801,234      | 5,173,004    |
| Minneapolis   | 83       | 721,000        | 949,573      | 963, 797     |
| Kansas City   | 105      | 777,792        | 1,386,409    | 1,153,488    |
| Dallas        | 95       | 1,543,071      | 1,181,400    | 995,237      |
| San Francisco |          | 3,516,283      | 2,817,872    | 4,582,493    |
| Total         | ,_1830   | \$32,693,993   | \$33,230,720 | \$35,922,421 |

#### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

United States Preliminary statistics compiled and published by the United States Department of Commerce show that merchandise to the value of 481 millions of dollars was exported during November, an increase of \$25,432,000 over the value of exports in October, and \$33,196,000 greater than in November last year. Imports during November declined about 21 millions compared with October, and were \$431,290 less than in November 1925. For November, exports exceeded imports by 105 millions, compared with an excess of 74 millions in October, and an excess of over 71 millions in November a year ago. and an excess of over 1 minions in November a year ago. For the year 1926 through November, exports have exceeded imports by \$269,217,758, compared with an excess of \$611,592,-208 for the same period of 1925. Preliminary figures for November, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

| T                           | 1926        | 1925   |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--|
| Imports: November\$ October | 378,247,032 | \$ 376,431,290<br>374,073,914<br>3,829,949,454 |
| Exports: November\$ October | 455,567,763 | \$ 447,803,577<br>490,566,814<br>4,441,541,562 |

Imports New Orleans

Merchandise imports through the port of New Orleans during Septem-ber (the latest month for which deber (the latest month for which detailed statistics are available) declined to \$8,619,700, compared with \$18,826,988 in August, and with \$24,496,456 in September 1925. This total is smaller than for September of the three years preceding 1925, and for September of 1919 and 1920, but larger than for September of 1921 and 1922. All of the large items imported in September listed in the table below the september and the large items.

last year: Volume Value Coffee, pounds...... 15,241,765

in the table below show decreases compared with September

\$3,030,434 1,791,951 329,366 288,016 486,083 401,602 456,904 
 Coffee, pounds
 15,241,765

 Sugar, pounds
 86,474,677

 Bananas, bunches
 672,480

 Sisal, tons
 1,767

 Orude Petroleum, gallons
 16,296,370

 Gasoline, gallons
 3,642,988

 Sodium nitrate, tons
 7,979

 Jute burlaps, pounds
 3,402,603

Exports New Orleans Merchandise was exported through the port of New Orleans during Sep-

tember to the value of \$28,254,238, a small increase over the preceding month, and the same month last year. Decreases compared with September 1925 are shown in exports of tobacco and cotton, but increases are shown in lard, wheat flour, lumber and gasoline and oil. Some of the large items exported in September are shown in the table:

|   | Volume   | Value  |
|---|--|--|
| Tobacco, pounds Lard, pounds. Wheat flour, barrels. Rosin, barrels. Long staple cotton, bales. Short staple cotton, bales. Rough Sou. Pine boards, feet. Oak boards, feet. Gasoline, gallons. Illuminating oil, gallons. Cylinder lubricating oil, gallons. Refined paraffin wax, pounds. | 4,997,422<br>257,835<br>12,248<br>7,263<br>55,797<br>7,896,000<br>4,113,000<br>60,984,802<br>15,710,799<br>1,414,340 | \$1,390,898<br>831,459<br>1,797,207<br>272,044<br>729,731<br>4,307,302<br>399,454<br>358,218<br>8,162,335<br>1,351,715<br>350,867<br>524,902 |
| Morniog Pologitii was, poutius  | 10,212,001   | 024,902  |

#### Grain Exports-New Orleans.

The volume of grain exported through the port of New Orleans was greater in November this year than last, due to greater exports of wheat and oats, as shown in the table:

|  |           |                              | Season through                    |                                   |  |
|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
|  | Nov. 1926 | Nov. 1925                    | Nov. 1926                         | Nov. 1925                         |  |
| Wheat, bushels<br>Corn, bushels<br>Oats, bushels |           | 103,999<br>317,362<br>63,928 | 4,943,054<br>1,832,087<br>470,418 | 2,220,658<br>2,219,176<br>350,855 |  |
| Total  | 1,158,813 | 485,289                      | 7,245,559                         | 4,790,689                         |  |

#### BUILDING.

Building permits issued during November 1926 at twenty reporting cities in the sixth district totaled \$9,920,493, compared with the total of \$18,665,663 for October, and 36.7 per cent less than the total of \$15,671,210 for November 1925. Of these regularly reporting twenty cities, nine reported increases over November last year, while eleven

reported smaller totals. The index number for November is 275.3, and is lower than has been recorded for any month since January 1925. Figures for five Florida cities which have reported regularly since 1919 total \$4,515,297 for November 1926, and show a decrease of 56.8 per cent compared with their total of \$10,442,026 for November last year. For the other fifteen regularly reporting cities the November total shows an increase of 3.4 per cent over November 1925. In the table below are shown figures reported for November, compared with a year ago, and percentage changes, and on page 8 appear index numbers for Federal reserve bank and branch cities of this district.

Statistics of building contracts awarded, compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation and divided by Federal reserve districts by the Division of Research and Statistics of the Federal Reserve Board, show a total of awards for the sixth district for November amounting to \$40,084, 475, an increase of 14.6 per cent over October, but 13.3 per cent less than for November, 1925.

|                     |        | Tov. 1926             |        | Pe<br>Nov. 1925 C | rcentage              |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|                     | No.    | Value                 | No.    | Value             | Value                 |
| Alabama:            | MO.    | value                 | 110.   | Value             | v aiue                |
| Anniston            | 13     | \$ 12,200             | 19     | \$ 27,850         | +54.2                 |
| Birmingham          | 447    | 1,650,500             | 491    | 1,083,229         | +52.4                 |
| Mobile              | 86     | 109,738               | 65     | 547.350           | - 80.0                |
| Montgomery          | 61     | 51.875                | 87     | 29,153            | + 77.9                |
| Florida:            | 01     | 01,010                | 01     | 20,100            | 1 11.5                |
| Jacksonville        | 628    | 2,303,755             | 429    | 2,165,215         | + 6.4                 |
| Miami               | 738    | 1,270,963             | 670    | 5,498,399         | - 76.9                |
| Orlando             | 205    | 287,913               | 440    | 1.006.890         | -71.4                 |
| Pensacola           | 118    | 101,913               | 61     | 112,520           | 9.4                   |
| Tampa               | 509    | 550,753               | 742    | 1,659,002         | - 66.8                |
| *Lakeland           | 65     | 124,250               | 286    | 1.112.905         | -88.8                 |
| Georgia:            | 00     | 161,600               | 200    | 1,112,500         | 00.0                  |
| Atlanta             | 298    | 913,507               | 311    | 442,856           | +106.3                |
|                     | 212    | 44,193                | 105    | 391,682           | -88.7                 |
| Augusta<br>Columbus | 46     | 101,525               | 48     | 80,295            | + 26.4                |
|                     | 273    | 200, 481              | 141    | 275,542           | -27.2                 |
| Macon               |        | 188,895               | 38     | 104.800           | $\frac{-21.2}{+80.2}$ |
| Savannah            | 65     | 100,030               | 90     | 104,000           | ₩ 60.4                |
| Louisiana:          | 185    | 625,679               | 141    | 1.049.473         | 40.4                  |
| New Orleans         |        | 41,204                | 108    | 78.805            | -40.4 $-47.7$         |
| Alexandria          | 61     | 41,404                | 109    | 10,000            | - 41.7                |
| Tennessee:          | 252    | 276,950               | 321    | 217,527           | +27.3                 |
| Chattanooga         | 202    |                       | 11     | 26.325            | -46.1                 |
| Johnson City        |        | 14,200                | 204    |                   | -40.1                 |
| Knoxville           | 163    | 621,350               |        | 668,334           |                       |
| Nashville           | 167    | 552,899               | 154    | 205,963           | +168.4                |
| m-+-1 on Cities     | 4 520  | B 0 000 400           | 2 607  | \$15,671,210      | - 36.7                |
| Total 20 Cities     |        | \$ 9,920,493<br>275.3 | 3,687  | 434.6             |                       |
| Index Number        |        |                       |        | 454.0             |                       |
| *Not included in    | t∩tals | or index nu           | nhers. |                   |                       |

#### LUMBER.

Weekly reports issued by the Southern Pine Association during recent weeks indicate that production by Southern Pine mills has ranged from 10. to 13 per cent below the computed normal production, and shipments and orders have been in smaller volume each week than production. For the year 1926 through December 3, the Association's cumulative barometer shows that production and orders have been approximately 88 per cent of normal production, and shipments have been about 90 per cent of normal production.

Figures for the month of November received by the Association up to the middle of December from 130 subscribing mills show a volume of production amounting to 290, 873,089 feet, 18 per cent greater than the amount of orders received in November by these mills, but only 5.3 per cent greater than their November shipments. November production by these mills was 11.4 per cent less than their computed normal output. Stocks on hand at the end of November, reported by these mills, amounted to 732,846,166 feet, exceeding production by 151.9 per cent, and nearly three times the volume of orders booked during the month, but were 13.6 per cent smaller than normal stocks for these mills. Unfilled orders on hand at the end of November amounted to 182,579,360 feet, and were 37.2 per cent less than the month's production, and 26 per cent less than orders booked. The report of operating time issued by the Association for the week ended December 3, showed that of 118 reporting mills, 101 operated 5½ days or a full week, and of this number 21 reported overtime aggregating 678 hours, or an average of a little more than 32 hours overtime for each mill. Preliminary figures for November, with comparisons are shown in the table:

|                               | NOV. 1926   | OCt. 1926   | NOV. 1929    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
|                               | (130 mills) | (128 mills) | (133  mills) |
| Orders                        | 246,573,608 | 290,802,614 | 324,078,313  |
| Shipments                     | 276,147,488 | 309,208,892 | 309,141,405  |
| Production                    |             | 303,281,429 | 276,529,144  |
| Normal production these mills | 328,330,252 | 326,291,503 | 317,048,269  |
| Stocks end of month           | 732,846,166 | 713,611,593 | 774,383,281  |
| Normal stocks these mills     | 848,033,542 | 836,617,660 | 845,559,118  |
| Unfilled orders end of month  | 182,579,360 | 216,454,524 | 265,540,296  |
|                               |             |             |              |

#### TEXTILES

Cotton Consumption The consumption of lint cotton in the United States during November 1926, according to statistics compiled

by the United States Census Bureau, amounted to 583,950 bales, 2.7 per cent greater than in October, and 7.4 per cent greater than in November 1925. The amount of cotton consumed in November was exceeded only twice during the previous cotton year, in January and March. Stocks of cotton at the end of November in consuming establishments were 23.2 per cent greater than a month earlier, and only 2.8 per cent greater than a year ago. Stocks in public storage and at compresses were 19.2 per cent greater than a month ago, and 25.2 per cent greater than a year ago. Exports during November were 8.5 per cent greater than in October, and 23.2 per cent greater than in November 1925. The number of spindles active during November was fractionally smaller than in October, and 1.0 per cent less than a year ago.

In the cotton-growing states, November consumption of cotton amounted to 425,490 bales, the highest total with one exception recorded for any month in records immediately available, which extend back to August 1919. November consumption in these states was 5.3 per cent greater than in October, and 11.3 per cent greater than in November last year. Stocks in consuming establishments showed increases over both of the periods under comparison. Stocks in public storage and at compresses increased 19.4 per cent over those a month ago, and were 22.2 per cent greater than a year ago. The number of spindles active in November was 77,668 greater than in October, and 238,326 greater than in November last year.

These Census Bureau statistics indicate that in November 72.9 per cent of the country's total consumption of cotton was in the cotton growing states compared with 71.1 per cent in October, and with 70.4 per cent in November 1925, and of the total number of spindles active, 53.4 per cent were in the cotton-growing states, compared with 53.1 per cent in October, and with 52.1 per cent in November last year.

#### United States.

|                          | Nov. 1926   | Oct. 1926  | Nov. 1925  |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Cotton Consumed:         |             |            | 2.7        |
| Lint                     | 583.950     | 568,532    | 543,488    |
| Linters                  | 62,978      | 75,539     | 71,487     |
| Stocks in Consuming Esta | ablishments | :          |            |
| Lint                     | 1,497,844   | 1,215,873  | 1,457,456  |
| Linters                  | 117,915     | 99,318     | 106,702    |
| Stocks in Public Storage | and at Com  | nresses.   | ,          |
| Lint                     | 6,517,565   | 5,469,809  | 5,206,562  |
| Linters                  | 52,913      | 42,868     | 36,881     |
| Exports                  | 1,486,224   | 1,369,820  | 1,206,786  |
| Imports                  | 41,441      | 30,449     | 27,007     |
| Active Spindles          | 32,586,770  | 32,592,806 | 32,912,732 |
| <b>~</b>                 | a           |            |            |
| Cotton                   | Growing     | , States.  |            |
|                          | Nov. 1926   | Oct. 1926  | Nov. 1925  |
| Cotton Consumed          | 425,490     | 404,216    |            |
| Stocks:                  | 420,490     | 404,210    | 382,438    |
| In Consuming Estab-      |             |            |            |
| lishments                | 1,046,260   | 842,937    | 1.008.021  |
| In Public Storage and    | 1,010,200   | 042, 301   | 1,000,021  |
| at Compresses            | 6,292,149   | 5,269,231  | 5,074,084  |
| Active Spindles          | 17.391.290  | 17,313,622 | 17,152,964 |
| Treate of indica         | 11,001,600  | 11,010,066 | 11,102,904 |

Cotton Cloth

Confidential reports for November were rendered to the Federal Reserve Bank by cotton goods manufacturers who during November produced 26,962,660 yards of cloth. This production was 4.8 per cent less than their output in October, and 3.8 per cent smaller than their output in November last year. Shipments and orders reported by these mills were smaller than for either of the periods under comparison, and while unfilled orders, stocks on hand, and the number on payrolls showed increases over October, decreases were shown in these items compared with a year ago.

| Nove              | ember 1926 com |  |
|-------------------|----------------|--|
|                   | Oct. 1926      | NOV. 1925                                |
| Production        | -4.8           | -3.8                                     |
| Shipments         | <b>—</b> 8.4   | $-\overset{\circ}{2}.\overset{\circ}{6}$ |
| Orders booked     | -35.2          | -19.3                                    |
| Unfilled orders   |                | -25.0                                    |
| Stocks on hand    | $+ \ 3.7$      | 0.9                                      |
| Number on payroll | + 2.7          | -6.3                                     |

Cotton Yarn

Reports for November were received from yarn manufacturers who produced 7,296,673 pounds of yarn during November, an increase of 2.6 per cent over October, and 1.5 per cent over their production in November 1925. Shipments, orders booked,

and unfilled orders were smaller than for October, while stocks and the number on payrolls increased. November shipments, stocks and number employed showed increases over November last year, but orders and unfilled orders were smaller.

| Nove              | mber 1926 comp | ared with: |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|
|                   | Oct. 1926      | Nov. 1925  |
| Production        | + 2.6          | + 1.5      |
| Shipments         | - 5.4          | +6.1       |
| Orders booked     | 63.4           | -19.4      |
| Unfilled orders   |                | -13.7      |
| Stocks on hand    |                | +20.6      |
| Number on payroll | + 0.6          | + 1.7      |

Hosiery

Figures reported to the United States Census Bureau for November and October by 35 identical establishments manufacturing hosiery in the sixth district show increases in production, cancellations and unfilled orders in November over October, but smaller shipments, stocks and orders booked. Comparative figures are shown in the table:

|                 | (Dozen Pairs) |           |  |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|--|
|                 | Nov. 1926     | Oct. 1926 |  |
| Production      | 743.740       | 719.935   |  |
| Shipments       | 823,007       | 889,212   |  |
| Stocks on hand  | 2,014,488     | 2,053,916 |  |
| Orders booked   | 873,725       | 928.374   |  |
| Cancellations   | 51,629        | 44.841    |  |
| Unfilled orders | 932,204       | 912,669   |  |

#### COAL.

Because of the continued large demand for coal, both foreign and domestic, the production of bituminous coal in the United States continues to reach new high levels. Statistics compiled by the Bureau of Mines indicate increases in total production each week in November, except the week which included Thanksgiving Day, and the lower total of production in that week may be attributed to the observance of that holiday. Production in each of these weeks has been greater than in the corresponding weeks last year. Total production during the calendar year 1926 through December 4 is estimated at 530,232,000 tons, compared with 478,653,000 tons produced to the same time of last year.

Production in Alabama also increased each week in November, except for the week which included the Thanksgiving Day holiday, and was greater than for the corresponding weeks of 1925. In Tennessee production increased from 122,000 tons for the week ended November 6 to 158,000 tons the following week, but declined to 134,000 tons for the weeks ended November 20 and 27th. Weekly figures for the United States, and for Alabama and Tennessee, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

#### (000 Omitted)

|   | United   | States   | Alat                     | ama                      | Tenn                     | essee                    |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Week Ended  | 1926   | 1925   | 1926                     | 1925                     | 1926                     | 1925                     |
| November 6<br>November 13<br>November 20<br>November 27<br>December 4 | 13,104<br>13,807<br>14,282<br>13,413<br>14,728 | 12,171<br>12,167<br>12,596<br>11,600<br>12,867 | 479<br>499<br>524<br>510 | 462<br>467<br>485<br>472 | 122<br>158<br>134<br>134 | 137<br>133<br>128<br>128 |

#### IRON.

Statistics compiled and published by the Iron Age indicate an increase of 337 tons in the daily average rate of production of pig iron in the United States in November over the October, and with 100,767 tons in November 1925. Total production in November amounted to 3,236,707 tons, compared with 3,334,707 tons in October, and with 3,023,006 tons in November 1925. The index number for November is 127.0, compared with 130.8 for October, and with 118.6 for

November last year. Except for October, the November index number is the highest recorded since May. The November daily average rate is higher than for any other November since 1918. There was a net loss of six furnaces in active operation during November, six having been blown in and twelve shut down, leaving 213 active at the end of the month. At the same time last year there were 220 furnaces active.

The November production of pig iron in Alabama, shown by the Iron Age statistics as 274,604 tons, is the largest output shown for any month in the statistics on file with the Federal Reserve Bank which extend back to 1920. This total compares with 249,584 tons in October, and 236,775 tons produced in November last year. There was one furnace blown out in Alabama during November, leaving 22 in active operation at the end of the month. A year ago there were 25 furnaces active. Reports indicate that the pig iron market in Alabama has become less active with the decline in sale of small tonnages for prompt shipment, but steady deliveries are being made against contracts and surplus stocks in furnace yards are not extensive. The price of \$20 continues. The practice of buying iron only for immediate requirements is becoming more and more general.

#### Unfilled Orders-U. S. Steel Corp'n.

Unfilled orders on the books of the United States Steel Corporation at the end of November totaled 3,807,447 tons an increase of 123,786 tons over the total reported for October, and larger than has been reported for any month since April this year.

#### NAVAL STORES.

Receipts of both turpentine and rosin at the three principal markets of the district declined seasonally in November compared with the preceding months, but were greater than in November last year. Receipts of turpentine were 44 per cent, and of rosin 39 per cent, greater than in November 1925, when unusually small receipts were recorded for both commodities. For the season to date (April—November 1925) and the season to date of the season to ember) receipts, of turpentine have been 3.2 per cent greater than last season, and receipts of rosin have exceeded those for the same period last season by 4.9 per cent. Stocks of rosin at the end of November were smaller than at the same time of any of the past ten years. Price statistics compiled by the Turpentine and Rosin Producers Association indicate an average price of turpentine on the Savannah market during November of 82 cents, compared with 84½ cents in October, and with \$1.05½ in November 1925, and an average price for rosins of \$12.25, compared with \$12.75 in October, and with \$14.37½ in November last year. Receipts and stocks at the three principal ports are shown in the table:

|                                  | Nov. 1926 | Oct. 1926              | Nov. 1925 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Receipts—Turpentine:<br>Sayannah | 13,317    | 16,069                 | 7,804     |
| Jacksonville                     | 8,974     | 11,465                 | 6,968     |
| Pensacola                        |           | 4,682                  | 3,229     |
| Total                            | 25,885    | 32,216                 | 18,001    |
| Receipts—Rosin:                  | WO,000    | 04,420                 | 20,002    |
|                                  | E0 4E0    | 56,028                 | 34,265    |
|                                  |           |                        |           |
| Jacksonville                     |           | 41,908                 | 28,860    |
| Pensacola                        | 15,053    | 16,184                 | 14,366    |
| Total                            | 107,801   | 114,120                | 77,491    |
| Stocks-Turpentine:               |           |                        |           |
| Savannah                         | 20,215    | 14.893                 | 11.382    |
| Jacksonville                     | 31,271    | 31,831                 | 22,628    |
| Pensacola                        |           | 10,646                 | 11,046    |
| Total                            | 63.650    | 57,370                 | 45,056    |
|                                  | 00,000    | 01,010                 | 40,000    |
| Stocks—Rosin:                    |           |                        |           |
| Savannah                         |           | <b>7</b> 2, <b>314</b> | 85,349    |
| Jacksonville                     |           | 65,859                 | 86,166    |
| Pensacola                        | 26,384    | 20,037                 | 25,424    |
| Total                            | 184,405   | 158,210                | 196,939   |

#### MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS.

The following index numbers, except where indicated otherwise, are computed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and are based upon average figures for 1919. That is, average monthly figures for the year 1919 are represented by 100, and the current monthly index numbers show the relation of activity in these lines to that prevailing in 1919.

| RETAIL TRADE 6TH DISTRICT                   | September       | October          | November       | September      | October          | November         |
|---|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| (Department Stores.)                        | 1926            | 1926             | 1926           | 1925           | 1925             | 1925             |
| Atlanta                                     | 113 5           | 167.9            | 140.2          | 95.2           | 172.0            | 133.1            |
| Birmingham                                  | 114.8           | 157.3            | 155.8          | 110.6          | 170 5            | 150.9            |
| Chattanooga                                 | 78.6            | 119.9            | 106.3          | 72.7           | 125.4            | 98.8             |
| Nashville                                   | 78.9            | 109.9            | 106.0          | 80.8           | 128.3            | 103.6            |
| New Orleans                                 | 96.1            | 131.0            | <b>146.6</b>   | 91.6           | 140.2            | 129.7            |
| Savannah.                                   | 68.5            | 109.0            | 96.2           | 56.2           | 118.2            | 97.1             |
| Other Cities                                | 97.7            | 129.0            | <b>124</b> .9  | 94.0           | 143.6            | 123.7            |
| District                                    | 96.7            | 135.5            | 133.3          | 90.5           | 146.5            | 125.0            |
| RETAIL TRADE U. S. (1)                      |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| Department Stores                           | 130.4           | 157.9            | 155.9          | 122            | 164              | 145              |
| Mail Order Houses                           | 119.6           | 149.7            | 152.6          | 113            | 170              | 144              |
| Chain Stores:                               | '               |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| Grocery                                     | 303.1           | 329.4            | <b>34</b> 6.8  | 243            | 315              | 268              |
| Drug.                                       | 192.4           | 209.0            | 197.6          | 170            | 179              | 167              |
| Shoe  | 141.8           | 157.7            | 149.8          | 134            | 164              | 136              |
| 5 & 10 Cent                                 | 211.0           | 257.1            | <b>24</b> 7.0  | 191            | 237              | 220              |
| Music                                       | 137.5           | 151.0            | 145.6          | 136            | 141              | 139              |
| Candy                                       | 218.1           | 226.8            | 232.0          | 202            | 215              | 195              |
| Cigar                                       | 152.6           | 162.1            | 149.6          | 142            | 151              | 136              |
| WHOLESALE TRADE 6TH DISTRICT                |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| Groceries                                   | 103.6           | 99.8             | 93.5           | 105.2          | 111.0            | 94.8             |
| Dry Goods                                   | 117.5           | 113.2            | 93.1           | 121.0          | 133.7            | 88.4             |
| Hardware                                    | 107.4           | 116.8            | 109.0          | 113.7          | 137.6            | 129.1            |
| Shoes Total                                 | $84.1 \\ 100.6$ | $75.9 \\ 100.1$  | 69.8<br>90.6   | 77.5 $107.8$   | $98.4 \\ 120.8$  | $71.8 \\ 99.9$   |
|   | 200.0           | 100.1            | 50.0           | 20,10          | 100.0            | 00.12            |
| WHOLESALE PRICES U. S. (2)                  | 7.47.7          | ****             | 404.5          | 140.4          | 155.0            | 150.0            |
| Farm Products                               | 141.1           | 139.4            | 134.6          | 160.4          | 155.3            | 153.9            |
| Foods Clothing                              | 152.0           | 152.0            | 151.1          | 160.3          | 157.6            | $160.2 \\ 187.9$ |
| Cloths and Clothing.                        | 175.2<br>182.0  | 171.5            | 169.9          | 189.3<br>169.3 | $189.5 \\ 171.7$ | 174.8            |
| Fuel and Lighting Metals and Metal Products | 127.0           | $184.4 \\ 126.7$ | 190.2<br>126.5 | 127.2          | 171.7 $127.9$    | 129.8            |
| Building Materials                          | 172.4           | 172.1            | 174.0          | 174.1          | 173.9            | 175.6            |
| Chemicals and Drugs                         | 130.8           | 129.3            | 128.5          | 135.6          | 134.9            | 135.4            |
| House Furnishings                           | 160.4           | 160.3            | 159.9          | 167.6          | 167.9            | 165.9            |
| Miscellaneous                               | 120.4           | 118.6            | 117.7          | 134.9          | 138.0            | 142.0            |
| All Commodities                             | 150.5           | 149.7            | 148.1          | 159.7          | 157.5            | 157.7            |
| BUILDING PERMITS 6TH DISTRICT               |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| Atlanta                                     | 113.0           | 123.9            | 104.9          | 89.4           | 76.5             | 50.8             |
| Birmingham                                  | 422.8           | 625.8            | 504.6          | 483.2          | 480.4            | 331.2            |
| Jacksonville                                | 406.7           | 382.1            | 770.2          | 575.4          | 670.0            | 723.9            |
| Nashville                                   | 342.4           | 128.8            | 292.0          | 331.4          | 105.0            | 108.8            |
| New Orleans                                 | 251.5           | 1,428.8          | <b>143</b> .0  | 672.0          | 236.6            | 239.9            |
| Other Cities                                | 482.5           | 533.3            | <b>261.4</b>   |                | 1,012.8          | 723.7            |
| District (20 Cities)                        | 346.9           | 517.7            | 275.3          | 591.2          | 567.7            | 434.6            |
| COTTON CONSUMED:                            |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| United States.                              | 106.8           | 106.3            | 109.2          | 90.3           | 101.6            | 101.5            |
| Cotton-Growing States                       | 139.3           | 136.9            | 144.1          | 111.7          | 124.0            | 129.4            |
| All Other States                            | 67.6            | 69.5             | 67.0           | 64.9           | 75.1             | 68.1             |
| Cotton Exports                              | 144.5           | 249.1            | 270.3          | 136.8          | 258.5            | 219.5            |
| PIG IRON PRODUCTION:                        |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| United States.                              | 123.1           | 130.8            | 127.0          | 107.0          | 118.6            | 118.3            |
| Alabama                                     | 131.0           | 142.0            | 156.2          | 122.6          | 123.2            | 134.7            |
| UNFILLED ORDERSU. S. STEEL COR-             |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| PORATION.                                   | 59.9            | 61.4             | 63.5           | 62.0           | 68.5             | 76.4             |
| (1) Compiled by Federal Reserve Board.      |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| (2) Compiled by Bureau of Labor Statis-     |                 |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
| tics. (1913—100.)                           | <u> </u>        |                  |                | 1              |                  |                  |