

MONTHLY REVIEW

*Of Agricultural, Industrial, Trade and Financial
Conditions in the Sixth Federal Reserve District*

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

OSCAR NEWTON, Chairman of the Board and Federal Reserve Agent
WARD ALBERTSON, Assistant Federal Reserve Agent

(Compiled November 17, 1927)

VOL. 12, No. 11.

ATLANTA, GA., NOVEMBER 30, 1927.

This Review released for publication in the
Afternoon papers of December 1st.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Industry and trade were less active in October than in the preceding month and were in smaller volume than a year ago. The general level of commodity prices showed a further slight advance.

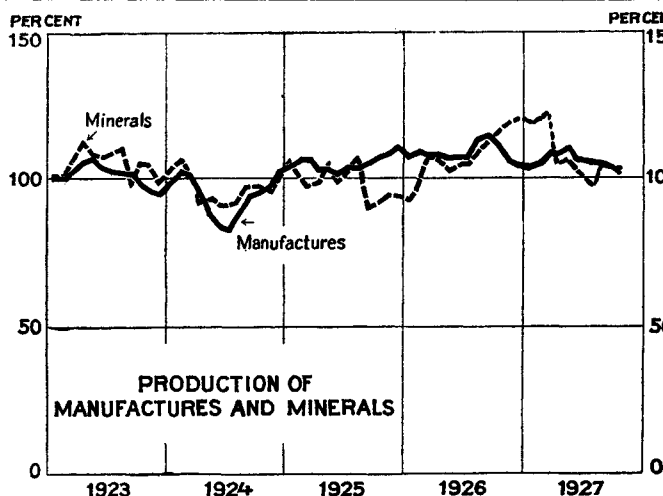
Production Production of manufactures declined in October, contrary to the usual seasonal tendency, while the output of minerals remained in practically the same volume as in September. In October and November activity of iron and steel mills and of automobile plants was smaller than at any previous period of the year. There were also decreases during October in consumption and in the production of building materials, crude petroleum, and boots and shoes. The output of bituminous coal and the number of hogs and cattle slaughtered increased by less than the usual seasonal amount. Production of flour, copper, and anthracite coal showed increases in October. Building contracts awarded increased considerably owing to unusually large awards in New York and Chicago in the last week of the month. The increases were largest in contracts for residential and commercial buildings. Unusually favorable weather during October in agricultural states resulted in increased yield for late fall crops. The indicated production of corn, according to the November crop report of the Department of Agriculture, was placed at 2,753,000,000 bushels, an increase of 150,000,000 bushels over the estimate of the previous month and 106,000,000 bushels over the yield a year ago. Larger yields as compared with the previous month's estimates were also indicated for cotton, tobacco and potatoes.

Trade Trade at wholesale and retail showed less than the usual increase in October. Compared with October a year ago wholesale trade in all leading lines, except meats and drugs, was smaller. Department store sales were approximately three percent smaller than in October 1926, while those of mail order houses and chain stores were somewhat larger. In-

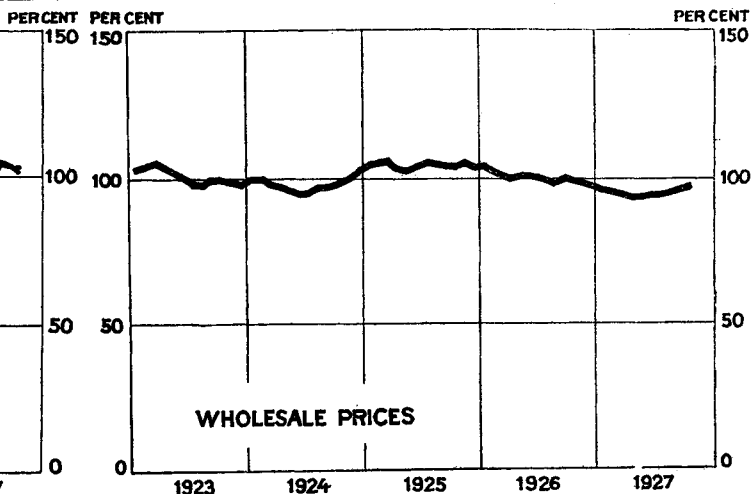
ventories of merchandise carried by wholesale firms were smaller in all reporting lines at the end of the month than in September. Compared with a year ago, stocks were smaller in all lines except drugs. Stocks of department stores increased in October in anticipation of the growth of sales that usually occurs in November and December, but at the end of the month they were no larger than a year ago. Freight car loadings declined in October and the first part of November and were smaller than in the corresponding period of last year for all classes of freight except grain and grain products.

Prices Wholesale commodity prices increased slightly in October, continuing the advance which began early in the summer, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index for October was higher than for any previous month of this year. The advance in the average for all commodities from September to October reflected increases in the prices of livestock, meats, and dairy products. Prices of corn, cotton, coal, metals, paint materials, and automobile tires, on the other hand declined. During the first three weeks in November there were increases in the prices of grains, cattle, copper, hides, and rubber, and decreases in hogs, cotton, silk, coal, petroleum, and iron and steel.

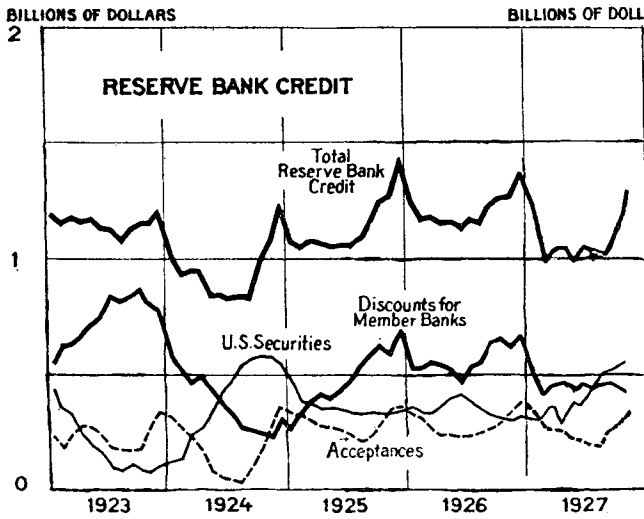
Bank Credit Total loans and investments, of member banks in leading cities increased by nearly \$300,000,000 during the latter part of October and the first half of November, and on November 16, were the highest ever reported. Investments increased by more than \$200,000,000 reflecting in large part purchases of Treasury Certificates issued on November 15, and loans on securities increased by about \$125,000,000. Loans chiefly for commercial and agricultural purposes declined during the period from the seasonal peak reached early in October. There was a continued increase in the demand for reserve credit between October 19 and November 23, arising chiefly out of further exports of gold. Discounts from member banks declined somewhat, while



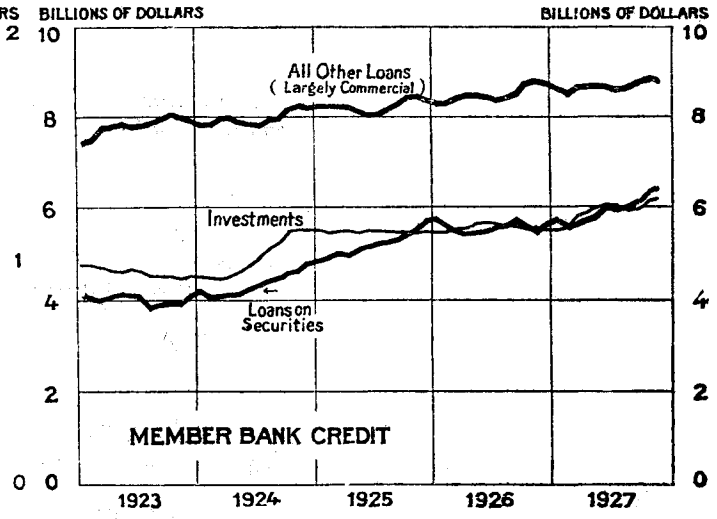
Index numbers of production of manufactures and minerals, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average=100). Latest figures, October manufacturers 102; minerals 105.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1926=100, base adopted by bureau). Latest figure October 97.0.



Monthly averages of daily figures for 12 Federal Reserve Banks. Latest figures are averages of first 23 days in November.



Monthly averages of weekly figures for banks in 101 leading cities. Latest figures are averages for first three weekly report dates in Nov.

acceptances and holdings of United States Government securities increased.

Conditions in the money market remained moderately easy in November. Call loan rates remained at the level reached in the latter part of October, and rates on prime commercial paper and bankers acceptances were unchanged.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Crop reports of the United States Department of Agriculture continue to indicate improvement in agricultural production in the sixth district over the prospects reported earlier in the season. According to the November estimates, the corn crop in the sixth district will be over 8.3 million bushels larger than was indicated on September 1; tobacco will be about 3.3 million pounds greater; the cotton crop will be 384,000 bales greater, and a small increase is shown in oats, while the estimate of wheat remains the same. These figures are for the sixth district and do not include those parts of Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana located in other Federal reserve districts.

Trade at retail in the sixth district increased seasonally in October over September, and sales by 46 department stores were 3.9 per cent greater than in October 1926. October sales by wholesale firms dealing in hardware, furniture, electrical supplies and shoes increased over September, but decreases were shown in groceries, dry goods, stationary and drugs. Sales by both retail and wholesale firms were affected by the warm weather which prevailed throughout nearly all of October. Collections in October, showed improvement over September in all of the lines which reported this item.

Loans and discounts by member banks in important

cities of the district were slightly smaller than a month earlier, and were less than at the same time last year. Discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank increased in October over figures for a month earlier, but were smaller than at the same time a year ago. Commercial failures were much smaller in October than in September or in October last year. Building permits issued at reporting cities of the district were less than half as large as in October last year. The large decrease was due partly to unusually large projects in October last year with no large items this year to offset them. Consumption of cotton in the cotton-growing states in October this year was 11.1 per cent greater than a year ago, and production of cloth and yarn by mills in the sixth district reporting to the Federal Reserve Bank was greater than in that month, although slightly smaller than in September this year. Production of pig iron in Alabama in October was greater than for any month since May.

RETAIL TRADE

The volume of trade at retail in the sixth Federal reserve district during October, reflected in confidential reports received from 46 department stores located throughout the district, showed a substantial seasonal increase over September, and was greater than any other month of 1927 or 1926, with the exception of December when the peak of department store business is always reached. October sales by these 46 department stores were 3.9 per cent greater than in October last year. Sales for the first ten months of 1927 show a slight increase, one-half of one per cent, over the same period last year. Stocks of merchandise on hand at the end of October increased 4.1 per cent over those on hand a month earlier, but were 0.6 per cent smaller than a year ago. The rate

**CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING OCTOBER 1927
IN THE SIXTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT BASED UPON REPORTS FROM 46 STORES**

	1		2		3		4		5	
	Net sales—percentage increase or decrease compared with:		Stocks at end of month, percentage increase or decrease compared with:		Percentage of sales to average stocks in Oct. (stock turnover for the month):		Percentage of sales to average stocks from Jan. 1 to October 31 (Stock turnover for year to date)		Percentage of outstanding orders at end of month to purchases during calendar year 1926.	
	(A) Oct. 1926	(B) Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1926	(A) Oct. 1926	(B) Sept. 1927	(A) 1926	(B) 1927	(A) 1926	(B) 1927	(A) Sept.	(B) Oct.
Atlanta (5)	+18.0	+13.1	+16.8	+ 3.6	38.4	39.8	299.4	316.2	5.6	7.7
Birmingham (5)	+ 6.1	+ 0.6	-18.8	+ 4.9	28.2	30.4	213.5	229.2	9.0	5.3
Chattanooga (6)	+ 4.2	+ 2.3	-10.1	- 1.8	24.5	27.1	196.2	197.4	7.8	3.8
Nashville (5)	+ 5.9	+ 1.4	+11.9	+14.2	30.2	29.6	250.9	265.2	7.6	3.1
New Orleans (5)	- 3.5	- 2.2	+ 1.4	+ 3.1	24.1	22.1	207.1	190.4	9.1	8.0
Other Cities (20)	- 1.9	- 7.2	- 5.4	+ 3.5	24.4	24.1	237.2	226.7	6.4	5.5
District (46)	+ 3.9	+ 0.5	- 0.6	+ 4.1	26.7	27.6	229.5	229.1	7.6	6.5

of turnover for the month was slightly better than a year ago, but for the year to date was fractionally slower. The index number of sales for October this year is 140.5, and is higher than for October of other recent years excepting 1925 and 1920. Outstanding orders at the end of October were 8.2 per cent smaller than a month earlier, but were 3.2 per cent greater than a year ago. Accounts Receivable were 16.0 per cent greater than at the end of September and 8.9 per cent greater than a year ago. Collections during October were 8.4 per cent greater than in September, and 9.9 per cent greater than in October 1926. The ratio of collections during October to accounts outstanding and due at the beginning of the month, for 30 firms, was 35.9 per cent. In September this ratio was 35.1 per cent, and in October last year 34.7 per cent.

WHOLESALE TRADE

Confidential reports for October rendered to the Federal Reserve Bank indicate that sales by firms dealing in hardware, furniture, electrical supplies and shoes were generally larger than in September, but decreases were shown in the volume of sales by firms selling groceries, dry goods, stationery, and drugs. Compared with October 1926, increased sales during October this year were reported in furniture, shoes, and drugs, but decreases in the other five lines. The index number of sales by firms selling groceries, dry goods, hardware and shoes for October 1927 is 94.0, and is lower than for October of the past four years. The unusually warm weather during October is probably responsible in part for the unfavorable comparisons with preceding months. The tables which follow show percentage comparison of figures reported in each line, and sales figures are shown separately for each city where three or more firms in a line reported.

Groceries Sales of groceries at wholesale in October were greater than in September at New Orleans, but smaller at other reporting cities, averaging 5.5 per cent less for the district. Compared with October last year, Atlanta, and New Orleans show increases but these are more than offset by decreases at other points. Stocks, accounts receivable, and collections show increases over September, but accounts receivable and collections were smaller than for October last year.

Sales:	Oct. 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926.
Atlanta (4 firms)	- 6.2	+ 3.8
Jacksonville (4 firms)	- 5.9	-42.1
New Orleans (6 firms)	+ 4.3	+ 6.0
Vicksburg (3 firms)	-33.2	-41.4
Other Cities (15 firms)	- 4.4	- 2.0
DISTRICT (32 firms)	- 5.5	-14.8
Stocks on hand	+ 1.8	+ 5.3
Accounts Receivable	+ 2.8	- 9.0
Collections	+ 1.5	-11.5

Dry Goods October sales of dry goods at wholesale were in smaller volume than in September or August, but were greater than for other months of the year. A decrease of 7.1 per cent is shown compared with October last year. Stocks on hand increased 2.9 per cent over those on hand a month earlier, but were 11.6 per cent smaller than a year ago, and accounts receivable showed decreases compared with both periods. Collections in October by wholesale dry goods firms increased 25.3 per cent over September, and were 13.6 per cent greater than in October last year.

Sales:	Oct. 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Atlanta (3 firms)	-23.9	+ 2.6
Nashville (3 firms)	-14.1	+ 2.9
Other Cities (16 firms)	-18.3	-11.1
DISTRICT (22 firms)	-18.0	- 7.1
Stocks on hand	+ 2.9	-11.6
Accounts receivable	- 0.8	- 3.2
Collections	+25.3	+13.6

Hardware Sales reported for October by wholesale hardware firms show increases at all reporting cities, averaging 7.4 per cent greater than September. Atlanta and Nashville show increases over October 1926, but decreases at other points more than offset them. Stocks and accounts receivable were about the same as for September, but smaller than for October

last year. Collections increased 12.0 per cent over September, but were 6.5 per cent smaller than in October a year ago.

Sales	Oct. 1927 Compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Atlanta (3 firms)	+ 2.2	+10.0
Jacksonville (3 firms)	+ 8.7	-42.3
Nashville (3 firms)	+ 5.8	+ 3.5
New Orleans (5 firms)	+ 4.5	-11.1
Other Cities (13 firms)	+12.0	-10.9
DISTRICT (27 firms)	+ 7.4	- 8.6
Stocks on hand	+ 0.1	-12.2
Accounts receivable	+ 0.8	-20.3
Collections	+12.0	- 6.5

Furniture October sales by twelve wholesale furniture firms averaged nearly one-half of one per cent larger than in September, and were 8.7 per cent greater than in October last year. Stocks on hand increased 10.1 per cent and accounts receivable 6.8 per cent over September, but both items were smaller than for October last year. Collections in October were 23.6 per cent greater than in September, and 15.7 per cent greater than in October 1926.

Sales:	Oct. 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Atlanta (4 firms)	-13.8	+ 6.2
Other Cities (8 firms)	+ 3.7	+ 9.2
DISTRICT (12 firms)	+ 0.4	+ 8.7
Stocks on hand	+10.1	-10.2
Accounts receivable	+ 6.8	-12.5
Collections	+23.6	+15.7

Electrical Supplies Sales during October by 10 reporting wholesale electrical supply dealers averaged 9.1 per cent greater than in September, but were 20.5 per cent less than in October 1926. Stocks on hand were about the same as at the end of September, but were 19.8 per cent less than a year ago. Accounts receivable and collections increased over September, but were smaller than for October last year, as shown in the table:

Sales:	Oct. 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
New Orleans (4 firms)	+ 4.3	-13.8
Other Cities (6 firms)	+15.4	-27.2
DISTRICT (10 firms)	+ 9.1	-20.5
Stocks on hand	- 0.1	-19.8
Accounts receivable	+ 4.2	- 6.4
Collections	+10.0	-17.4

Comparison of sales in the other three lines are shown only for the district, as three or more reports were not received in any of these lines from a single city.

	Oct. 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Shoes (5 firms)	+ 1.2	+ 1.5
Stationery (4 firms)	-18.1	- 1.3
Drugs (6 firms)	- 5.1	+ 8.1
		Percentage

AGRICULTURE

Crop reports issued early in November by the United States Department of Agriculture, based upon conditions on November 1, indicate that there was general improvement in the prospects for nearly all crops during October, because of the continued warm weather and lack of rainfall in most sections, both of which favored maturing and harvesting of crops. Improvement was noted in the condition and yield of crops generally in each state of the sixth district compared with a month earlier, ranging from three-tenths of one per cent in Louisiana to 11.0 per cent in Alabama. Figures for these six states indicate the corn crop in Alabama and Louisiana is larger than that of last year, but smaller in the other four states. White potatoes were produced in greater quantity in all six states, but the sweet potato crop is smaller than a year ago in Georgia, Florida and Tennessee. The tobacco crop in Georgia is estimated at 59 million pounds, compared with 39,963,000 pounds last year, but the quality is 6 per cent lower. The Tennessee tobacco crop is estimated at 70,964,000 pounds, compared with 105,920,000 pounds last year, the quality is 4 per cent higher than last year. Production of peanuts in these six states is estimated at 422,125,000 bushels, compared with 230,675,000 bushels last year. Production of apples is estimated at 2,245,000 bushels, compared with 8,874,000 bushels last

year. The citrus fruit crops in Florida are also estimated at smaller totals than last year. The estimated production of oranges is 5,300,000 boxes, compared with 7,000,000 boxes last year, and of grapefruit 9,200,000 boxes compared with 9,600,000 boxes last year. Production of limes is estimated at less than 500,000 boxes, compared with 12,000,000 boxes last year.

Cotton According to the November report the cotton crop is now estimated at 12,842,000 bales. This is 164,000 bales greater than the October estimate, and is 5,135,000 bales below production last year. The improvement over the October estimate is due to the warm dry weather during that month which permitted rapid gathering of the crop with less than usual loss to yield and quality. The November estimates for the six states of this district are higher than for October in each instance, ranging from an increase of 1,000 bales in Florida, to 105,000 bales in Mississippi and 110,000 bales in Alabama. The six states together show an increase over the October estimate of 271,000 bales, but this does not make allowance for the fact that parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee are in other districts. November estimates, compared with final yields for last year, are shown in the table:

	Nov. 1, 1927 Estimate	Final Yield 1926
Alabama	1,180,000	1,497,821
Florida	17,000	31,954
Georgia	1,110,000	1,496,105
Louisiana	525,000	829,407
Mississippi	1,330,000	1,887,787
Tennessee	350,000	450,533
*Total 6th district	2,822,000	3,772,000
United States	12,842,000	17,977,374

*Not including those parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee located in other Federal Reserve Districts.

Sugar Cane and Sugar Weather conditions in the Louisiana cane belt have continued generally favorable during the latter part of October and early November. Needed rains occurred the first two weeks of November and benefited the planted cane. Fall planting has been finished and grinding operations are reported in full swing. Yields are reported good and the sugar content of the cane above normal.

SUGAR MOVEMENT (Pounds)

Raw Sugar			
	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Receipts:			
New Orleans	104,999,897	91,852,945	125,855,240
Savannah	27,076,402	20,958,239	24,238,018
Meltings:			
New Orleans	84,469,550	109,775,391	142,436,753
Savannah	29,784,360	34,848,894	34,574,141
Stocks:			
New Orleans	40,325,536	19,933,087	22,119,367
Savannah	5,183,358	7,891,316	1,987,725
Refined Sugar			
Shipments:			
New Orleans	162,356,263	123,959,902	121,428,499
Savannah	18,625,985	29,328,138	28,266,433
Stocks:			
New Orleans	62,342,193	75,778,345	77,128,015
Savannah	16,344,353	8,302,940	12,953,959

RICE MOVEMENT—NEW ORLEANS

Rough Rice (Sacks)			
	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Receipts	140,979	136,388	105,289
Shipments	127,256	148,065	96,389
Stocks	38,933	25,210	49,208
Clean Rice (Pockets)			
Receipts	273,502	236,132	253,895
Shipments	239,453	193,155	259,205
Stocks	280,208	246,159	124,145

Rice Millers Association Statistics (Barrels)

Receipts of Rough Rice		
	October	Season
Season 1927-28	1,719,740	3,679,366
Season 1926-27	1,681,130	3,088,590
Distribution of Milled Rice		
Season 1927-28	1,200,174	2,473,641
Season 1926-27	1,034,736	2,062,218
Stocks of Rough and Milled Rice		
November 1, 1927	2,247,038	
November 1, 1926	1,879,502	

FINANCIAL

Savings Deposits Savings deposits at the end of October, reported by 87 banks in the sixth district, increased eight-tenths of one per cent over the September total, and averaged 6.8 per cent greater than at the end of October last year. Figures for Federal Reserve Bank and Branch cities are shown in the table, and reports from banks located elsewhere are grouped under "Other Cities." In some instances the reports indicate the withdrawal of funds following the quarterly interest period at the end of September.

(000 Omitted)

	October 1927	September 1927	Comparison Oct.-Sept. 1927	October 1926	Comparison Oct. '27-'26
Atlanta (7 banks)	\$ 42,213	\$ 42,991	- 1.8	\$ 37,306	+13.2
Birmingham (4 banks)	24,862	24,738	+ 0.5	24,729	+ 0.5
Jacksonville (5 banks)	23,702	29,255	- 1.9	23,772	- 0.2
Nashville (8 banks)	27,344	24,863	+10.0	20,874	+31.0
New Orleans (8 banks)	48,967	48,316	+ 1.3	47,267	+ 3.6
Other Cities 55 banks)	114,415	114,139	+ 0.2	109,320	+ 4.7
Total (87 banks)	286,503	284,302	+ 0.8	268,268	+ 6.8

Debits to Individual Accounts The total volume of debits to individual accounts at 24 reporting cities of the sixth district increased seasonally in October over September, but was 2.0 per cent smaller than in October last year. Of the 24 reporting cities, fourteen reported increases over October a year ago, the principal decreases being at Jacksonville, Tampa, New Orleans, and Chattanooga. The monthly figures shown in the table are derived from weekly figures by pro-rating figures for those weeks which do not fall entirely within a single calendar month.

(000 Omitted)

	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Alabama			
Birmingham	176,921	164,243	156,653
Dothan	4,805	5,290	4,203
Mobile	40,653	40,451	45,440
Montgomery	34,027	30,997	26,567
Florida			
Jacksonville	77,470	74,123	107,467
Miami	33,679	30,419	
Pensacola	7,443	7,765	9,000
Tampa	41,135	38,766	65,561
Georgia			
Albany	6,245	6,630	6,128
Atlanta	180,206	159,754	174,848
Augusta	35,705	36,692	32,602
Brunswick	3,948	3,561	3,633
Columbus	16,067	16,474	14,068
Elberton	1,812	1,535	1,084
Macon	26,337	27,955	27,859
Newnan	2,960	2,699	3,350
Savannah	58,188	63,617	63,600
Valdosta	5,989	8,424	6,486
Louisiana			
New Orleans	396,565	389,444	408,699
Mississippi			
Hattiesburg	7,713	8,870	
Jackson	30,509	26,240	23,387
Meridian	18,757	17,188	16,909
Vicksburg	9,433	8,186	9,241
Tennessee			
Chattanooga	53,622	49,091	64,150
Knoxville	36,026	34,546	35,714
Nashville	103,158	88,240	89,181
Total 24 cities	\$1,368,031	\$1,301,911	\$1,395,830

*Not included in totals because of lack of 1926 figures.

Condition of Selected Cities Weekly reports rendered to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta by 33 member banks in Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville and Savannah indicate that the total volume of loans and discounts declined from \$504,628,000 on October 12, to \$498,260,000 two weeks later, but since then have increased and on November 9 amounted to \$502,167,000. During this four weeks period loans secured by Government obligations have increased from \$5,351,000 to \$7,316,000, but there have been small declines in those secured by other stocks and bonds, and in commercial loans. Total loans by these banks on November 9 were more than 17 millions smaller than on the corresponding report date last year. United States securities owned by these banks on November 9 were smaller in volume by 6.6 millions than four weeks earlier, but were about 13 millions greater than a year

ago. Holdings of other stocks and bonds decreased \$23,000 during this four weeks period, but were \$1,765,000 greater than a year ago. Total loans and investments on November 9 amounted to \$615,294,000 compared with \$624,402,000 on October 12, this year, and with \$617,989,000 on November 10 last year. Time deposits increased a little more than 3 million dollars compared with the total four weeks earlier, and were more than 18 million greater than a year ago. Demand deposits decreased 7.9 millions during the past four weeks, and were in about the same volume as on the corresponding report date last year. Principal items contained in the weekly report are shown in the table for the three report dates under comparison:

	Nov. 9, 1927	Oct. 12, 1926	Nov. 10, 1926
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 7,316	\$ 5,351	\$ 5,611
Secured by Stocks and Bonds	112,127	113,489	103,162
All Others	382,724	385,788	410,804
Total Discounts	502,167	504,628	519,577
U. S. Securities	51,877	58,501	38,927
Other Stocks and Bonds	61,250	61,273	59,485
Total Loans, Discounts and Investments	615,294	624,402	617,989
Time Deposits	243,410	240,216	225,104
Demand Deposits	335,522	343,427	335,604
Borrowings from F. R. Bank	13,029	9,539	24,627

Operations of the Federal Reserve Bank

Discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for its member banks in the sixth district increased a little more than 3 million dollars during the

four weeks period between October 12 and November 9. Discounts secured by United States Government obligations decreased, but "All Others" increased 4.8 millions of dollars. Discounts for member banks are, however, at a considerably lower level that at the same time last year, the total for November 9 being \$25,689,000 compared with \$45,989,000 on the corresponding report date a year ago. Holdings of bills bought in the open market declined, and holdings of United States securities increased slightly, over four weeks earlier. Holdings of purchased bills are, however, very much smaller than a year ago, while those of United States securities are greater. Total bills and securities held by the bank on November 9, totaled \$41,392,000, compared with \$38,197,000 on October 12, and with \$85,046,000 at the same time a year ago. Reserves declined during the past four weeks, but were 24.6 millions greater than a year ago, while deposits were somewhat smaller than for either of those dates. Circulation of Federal Reserve Notes declined 7.9 millions compared with a month ago, and were about 16.4 million less than a year ago. Principal items in the weekly statement are shown in the table with comparative figures for a month and a year ago.

(000 Omitted)

	Nov. 9, 1927	Oct. 12, 1926	Nov. 10, 1926
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 2,760	\$ 3,384	\$ 4,376
All Others	22,929	18,121	41,613
Total Discounts	25,689	22,505	45,989
Bills Bought in open market	1,849	2,404	37,173
U. S. Securities	13,853	12,988	1,883
Total Bills and Securities	41,392	38,197	85,046
Cash Reserves	185,524	204,560	160,910
Total Deposits	66,345	78,480	70,032
F. R. Notes in actual circulation	154,992	162,898	171,382
Reserve Ratio	83.8	84.7	66.7

Commercial Failures

Commercial failures in the United States during October, according to statistics compiled by R. G. Dun &

Company increased 214 in number and \$3,449,747 in liabilities over September, and were 24 greater in number, and \$3,005,152 greater in liabilities than in October last year. Failures in the sixth district increased in number, but were 31.6 per cent smaller in liabilities in October than in September, and were also smaller in number and less than half as large in liabilities as in October a year ago. Figures for the United States, divided by Federal Reserve districts, are shown in the table:

District--	Number Oct. 1927	Liabilities Oct. 1927	Liabilities Sept. 1927	Liabilities Oct. 1926
Boston	185	\$ 3,395,679	\$ 2,199,194	\$ 2,791,209
New York	276	9,502,069	11,057,845	7,056,807
Philadelphia	51	952,548	1,295,236	2,540,877
Cleveland	175	7,009,505	3,212,596	2,572,720
Richmond	104	1,761,672	3,740,473	3,394,205
Atlanta	101	902,276	1,319,183	2,171,336

Chicago	264	4,856,717	3,251,574	5,566,978
St. Louis	63	1,345,463	184,910	801,234
Minneapolis	88	660,024	535,829	949,573
Kansas City	99	1,704,083	851,709	1,386,409
Dallas	38	554,653	1,053,715	1,181,400
San Francisco	353	3,591,183	4,083,861	2,817,872
Totals	1,787	\$36,235,872	\$32,786,125	\$33,230,720

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

United States

Preliminary figures compiled and published by the United States Department of Commerce show increases in October over September of both exports and imports. Exports were 15.2 per cent greater than in September, and 7.6 per cent greater than in October 1926. Imports increased 4.2 per cent over September, but were 5.5 per cent less than in October last year. In October this year exports exceeded imports by 134 million of dollars, while in October a year ago exports were greater than imports by 78 millions. For the ten months of 1927 there has been an excess of exports over imports amounting to 489 millions, compared with an excess of 165 millions during the same period of last year. Preliminary figures for October, with comparison, are shown in the table:

	1927	1926
Imports:		
October	\$ 356,000,000	\$ 376,868,000
September	341,715,000	343,202,000
10 months ending with Oct	3,509,008,000	3,697,545,000
Exports:		
October	\$ 490,000,000	\$ 455,301,000
September	425,312,000	448,071,000
10 months ending with Oct.	\$3,998,458,000	\$3,862,991,000

Imports

Merchandise valued at \$19,632,179 New Orleans was imported into the United States through the port of New Orleans during August 1927. This was an increase of 29.7 per cent over the value of imports during July, and 4.3 per cent greater than imports during August 1926. Some of the principal articles imported during August are listed in the table:

	Volume	Value
Coffee lbs.	35,590,006	\$5,312,275
Bananas, bunches	2,115,983	1,081,817
Crude petroleum, barrels	575,515	668,184
Gasoline, barrels	199,332	966,652
Sugar, lbs.	150,775,324	3,937,896
Burlaps, lbs.	18,655,733	2,242,836
Mahogany cabinet wood logs, ft.	2,507,000	276,635

Exports

The total value of commodities exported through the port of New Orleans during August was \$26,522,037, and was 3.4 per cent less than the total for August last year. Short staple cotton was exported in larger volume than in August 1926, but most of the other principal items showed decreases compared with that month.

	Volume	Value
Lard, lbs.	4,360,014	\$ 653,014
Wheat flour, barrels	187,783	1,259,045
Tobacco, lbs.	7,149,127	1,194,211
Long staple cotton, bales	11,130	1,073,022
Short staple cotton, bales	74,893	6,480,156
Rough Sou. Pine boards, feet	7,458,000	361,778
Oak boards, feet	6,314,000	388,865
Illuminating oil, barrels	491,572	1,069,790
Gasoline, barrels	1,306,320	5,032,658
Gas and fuel oil, barrels	505,548	704,537

Grain Exports—New Orleans

The export movement of wheat and corn continues smaller than at the same time last year. Total figures for October, and for the season, with comparisons, are shown below:

	Oct. 1927	Oct. 1926	Season through	
			Oct. 1927	Oct. 1926
Wheat, bu.	1,472,708	1,536,314	4,529,354	4,099,075
Corn, bu.	167,203	241,002	859,591	1,060,466
Oats, bu.	77,979	50,761	362,347	381,205
Rye, bu.	180,000		222,857	
Total, bu.	1,897,890	1,828,077	5,974,649	6,086,746

BUILDING

With the exception of August and June this year, the volume of prospective building as indicated by permits issued at twenty reporting cities of the sixth district was smaller in October than for any other month since January 1925. The total of permits issued at these twenty

cities during October was \$9,104,305 and was smaller by 17.9 per cent than the total for September, and 51.2 per cent smaller than for October last year. This large decrease compared with October 1926 was partly due to large figures reported by several cities for that month. Included in the total for New Orleans for October last year were permits for a large office building and a theatre to cost together over 5½ million dollars, and unusually large totals were also reported from Chattanooga, Miami, Knoxville, and several of the smaller cities, with no large projects in October this year to offset them. The index number of permits issued at these twenty cities for October was 252.5, compared with 307.6 for September, and with 517.7 for October 1926.

Statistics of building contracts awarded, compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, show a total of contract awards during October in the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains amounting to \$562,815,800, compared with \$521,611,400 in September, and with \$515,726,600 in October last year. Of this October total, \$243,562,200 was for residential buildings, and \$108,210,500 for public works and utilities. The October total of awards for the sixth district was \$26,023,159, compared with \$30,917,019, for September, and with \$34,979,432 for October 1926.

In the table are shown permits issued during October this year and last at reporting cities of this district together with percentage comparisons. Index numbers appear on page 8.

	No.	Percentage		
		Oct. 1927	Oct. 1926	Change in value
Alabama:				
Anniston	21	\$ 74,700	25	\$ 31,950 +133.8
Birmingham	597	2,227,515	574	2,046,808 + 8.8
Mobile	123	133,850	56	88,045 + 52.0
Montgomery	194	109,422	94	95,455 + 14.6
Florida:				
Jacksonville	446	1,001,419	806	1,142,946 - 12.4
Miami	334	282,068	3,118	4,015,222 - 93.0
Orlando	106	162,071	248	361,513 - 55.2
Pensacola	31	233,140	161	64,741 +260.1
Tampa	348	401,415	669	640,597 - 37.3
*Lakeland	28	11,725	79	323,730 - 96.4
*Miami Beach	39	286,125	17	139,100 +105.7
Georgia:				
Atlanta	371	833,139	348	1,079,107 - 22.8
Augusta	310	112,098	107	47,611 +135.4
Columbus	57	48,655	58	154,923 - 68.6
Macon	189	203,681	254	250,761 - 18.8
Savannah	65	403,347	53	165,036 +144.4
Louisiana:				
New Orleans	231	1,284,831	175	6,249,777 - 79.4
Alexandria	100	67,917	85	63,097 + 7.6
Tennessee:				
Chattanooga	318	391,234	341	1,105,380 - 64.6
Johnson City	24	52,335	25	406,784 - 87.1
Knoxville	215	260,544	232	412,044 - 36.8
Nashville	343	523,074	304	243,866 +114.5
Total 20 Cities	4,490	\$9,104,305	7,733	\$18,665,663 - 51.2
Index No.		252.5		517.7

*Not included in totals or index numbers.

LUMBER

Preliminary figures for October, received up to the middle of November by the Southern Pine Association from 114 reporting members, show the production by these mills of 283, 206, 945 feet, during October, their shipments amounted to 286,729,108 feet, and orders booked during the month amounted to 279,754,741 feet. Orders for the month were, therefore, 1.2 per cent less than production. During the months of August and September orders have exceeded production of the reporting mills, but during October last year were somewhat smaller. Shipments during October exceeded production by 1.2 per cent, and exceeded orders booked by 2.5 per cent. October production by these mills was 6.6 per cent below the computed normal production for these mills; in September production was 2.5 below normal, while in October a year ago production of reporting mills was 7.1 per cent below normal. Stocks on hand at the end of October were 2.4 per cent less than normal; a month ago stock were 1.2 per cent below normal stocks. Unfilled orders on hand at the end of the month were 26.8 per cent less than the output for the month. The latest available statement of operating time issued by the Association, for the week ended November 4, indicates that of the mills which reported for that week sixteen operated overtime aggregating 517 hours, and average of 32 1-3 hours overtime for each of these mills. This overtime was to a large extent offset by

reports from other mills which operated less than the full time. Preliminary figures for October, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Orders	114 mills	99 mills	128 mills
Shipments	279,754,741	265,886,141	290,802,614
Production	286,729,108	267,762,278	809,208,892
Normal production, these mills	283,206,945	257,559,850	803,281,429
Stocks, end of month	303,263,652	264,160,855	326,291,598
Normal stock, these mills	784,091,818	688,096,052	713,611,598
Unfilled orders, end of month	803,725,243	696,727,979	836,617,660
	207,449,396	183,701,706	216,454,524

TEXTILES

Cotton Consumption The consumption of cotton in the United States during October 1927, according to statistics compiled and published by the United States Census Bureau, declined 2.3 per cent, compared with the month before, but was 7.8 per cent greater than in October last year. Stocks increased over those held at the end of September. Stocks held by consuming establishments were 9.4 per cent greater than a year ago, but stocks in public storage and at compresses were slightly smaller than at that time. Exports increased seasonally over those in September, but were 17.8 per cent smaller than in October last year. The number of spindles active in October was 154,050 greater than in September, but 107,260 less than in October a year ago.

Statistics for the cotton-growing states indicate the consumption during October of 449,040 bales of cotton, compared with 462,213 bales in September, and with 404,196 bales in October 1926. Stocks in consuming establishments increased over both the preceding month and the same month last year, and stocks in public storage and at compresses, while 40.1 per cent greater than a month earlier, because of seasonal factors, was 2.4 per cent smaller than a year ago. The number of spindles active in October in the cotton-growing states increased 45,094 over those active in September, and was 457,072 greater than in October 1926. The Census Bureau statement indicates that 73.3 per cent of all cotton consumed in the United States during October was consumed in the cotton-growing states, compared with 73.7 per cent in September, and with 71.1 per cent in October last year.

UNITED STATES (Bales)

	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Cotton Consumed:			
Lint	612,935	627,321	568,361
Linters	73,193	78,260	75,401
Stocks in Consuming Establishments:			
Lint	1,327,095	1,118,776	1,213,199
Linters	142,174	147,321	98,924
Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses:			
Lint	5,431,129	3,964,680	5,471,533
Linters	46,514	38,914	52,761
Exports	1,126,509	631,041	1,369,820
Imports	19,235	28,346	30,877
Active Spindles	32,497,504	32,343,454	32,604,764

Cotton Growing States (Bales)

	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Cotton Consumed	449,040	462,213	404,196
Stocks in Consuming Establishments	971,309	732,313	841,027
Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses	5,146,462	3,672,929	5,270,930
Active Spindles	17,770,442	17,725,348	17,313,370

Cotton Cloth Confidential reports for October were rendered to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta by mills in the sixth district which manufactured, during that month, more than 29 million yards of cotton cloth, an output 3.5 per cent smaller than in September, but 7.2 per cent greater than in October 1926. Shipments declined 5.8 per cent compared with September, and were 5.2 per cent smaller than in October a year ago. Orders booked by these mills in October increased 14.0 per cent over September, and stocks on hand increased 11.3 per cent, but unfilled orders on hand at the end of the month were smaller than a month ago, and the number of workers also declined slightly. Compared with October last year, all items showed decreases except production and the number of workers on payrolls.

	October 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Production	- 3.5	+ 7.2
Shipments	- 5.8	- 5.2
Orders booked	+14.0	-48.1
Unfilled orders	-16.3	-11.0
Stocks on hand	+11.3	- 2.1
Number on payroll	- 0.7	+ 7.9

Cotton Yarn Confidential reports were also received from mills in the sixth district which during October manufactured about 6.5 million pounds of yarn, 1.5 per cent less than their output in September, but 2.6 per cent greater than in October last year. Orders booked by these mills during October declined, compared with September, but shipments, stocks and unfilled orders on hand at the end of the month increased. Compared with October last year, figures for October 1927 show increased stocks, and a larger number of employees, but smaller shipments, orders, and unfilled orders.

	October 1927 compared with:	
	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926.
Production	- 1.5	+ 2.6
Shipments	+ 1.5	- 7.2
Orders booked	-22.2	-56.6
Unfilled orders	+ 9.9	-20.7
Stocks on hand	+ 2.2	+30.5
Number on payroll	- 0.0	+ 5.7

COTTON SEED AND COTTONSEED PRODUCTS

	(1) Sixth District Aug. 1 to Oct. 31		United States Aug. 1 to Oct. 31	
	1927	1926	1927	1926
Cotton Seed, tons:				
Received at mills.....	869,747	872,242	2,580,308	2,616,590
Crushed	555,982	493,886	1,619,143	1,485,516
On Hand	340,229	386,287	1,050,949	1,153,247
Production:				
Crude Oil, lbs.	178,028,914	154,789,137	496,776,580	442,721,964
Cake and Meal, tons ..	241,618	214,190	722,381	667,445
Hulls, tons	160,383	141,793	462,951	419,183
Linters, bales	94,169	82,367	284,233	255,254
Stocks Oct. 31:			(2)	(2)
Crude Oil, lbs.	25,158,930	17,092,716	101,263,650	60,251,991
Cake and Meal, tons ..	63,994	62,335	186,997	170,324
Hulls, tons	51,974	51,311	250,888	237,541
Linters, bales	42,434	41,670	136,117	138,626

(1) Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.
(2) Not including stocks held by refining and manufacturing establishments, and in transit to refiners and consumers.

COAL

Weekly statistics compiled by the United States Bureau of Mines indicate that the upward trend of bituminous coal production in the United States, which has been in evidence since the beginning of July continued up to the middle of October, but since that time weekly figures have indicated a downward tendency. Current statistics continue to show material decreases in comparison with figures for corresponding weeks of 1926. The rather sharp decline shown in the table for the week ending November 5 is attributed to the partial observance of November 1, All Saints Day, as a holiday in some sections. The weekly figures for Alabama and Tennessee, the coal producing states of the sixth district, also show decreases compared with corresponding weeks last year. This decline is probably due in part to the comparatively warm weather prevailing during October and Early November. Total production of bituminous coal during the calendar year 1927 up to November 5, approximately 262 workingdays, amounts to 445,208,000 net tons, compared with 472,182,000 tons produced during the same period of 1926, and with 425,139,000 tons for the corresponding part of 1925.

Week Ended	United States		Alabama		Tennessee	
	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926
October 8	10,286	12,363	376	446	95	113
October 22	10,285	12,712	361	471	96	123
October 29	10,019	13,486	351	481	90	124
November 5	9,037	13,104				

Consumers' stocks of bituminous coal on October 1, according to statistics compiled by the Bureau of Mines and the Bureau of the Census, amounted to approximately 62 million tons. This is an increase of about 1.8 million tons compared with stocks on August 1 this year, and is about 19 million tons greater than on October 1 last year.

IRON

According to statistics compiled and published by the Iron Age, production of pig iron in the United States during October totaled 2,784,112 tons, a slight increase over September output, but smaller than for any other month since September 1925. The index number for October stands at 109.2, compared with 108.9 for September, and with 130.8 for October 1926, based upon the monthly average for 1919 as represented by 100. The small increase over September is due to the fact that October has one more day, as the daily average output in October

was 89,810 tons, compared with 92,498 tons per day in September, and compared with 107,553 tons per day in October last year. In October there was a net loss of 7 furnaces in active operation, 172 being active on November 1, compared with 179 on October 1, and with 219 active on November 1 last year.

The production of iron in Alabama during October increased over September and was larger than for any month since May. Alabama output totaled 224,533 tons, compared with 207,363 tons in September, and with 249,584 tons produced in October last year. The index number of Alabama production in October was 127.7, compared with 118.0 for September, and with 142.0 for October 1926. On November 1 there were 18 furnaces active in Alabama, compared with 18 active on October 1, and with 23 active on November 1, 1926. Shortly before the end of October, Birmingham furnaces made a reduction of \$1.25 in the price of iron, and the quotation is now \$16.00. This quotation is, however, only for November and December shipments. Following this reduction a fair volume of business was booked for November delivery. The present price is the lowest on Birmingham iron since March 1922. Reports continue to indicate that in most cases buyers are purchasing very close to their current requirements.

Unfilled Orders—U. S. Steel Corporation

Unfilled orders on hand at the end of October, reported through the press by the United States Steel Corporation, amounted to 3,341,040 tons, a gain of 192,927 tons over September, and larger than for any other month since April. This total for October compares with 3,683,166 for October 1926.

NAVAL STORES

Weather conditions during October and early November this year have favored the production of turpentine and rosin to an extent seldom equalled at this time of the year. As a result, receipts of both of these commodities at the three principal markets during October have been greater than for the same month of any of the past ten years, and receipts of both turpentine and rosin for the season to date (April—October) have been greater than for the corresponding part of any of the past ten seasons. Receipts of turpentine in October at the three principal markets of the district declined 14.5 per cent compared with September, but were 21.4 per cent greater than for October last year. Receipts of rosin in October decreased 12.6 per cent compared with September, but were, 15.7 per cent greater than in October a year ago. Stocks of turpentine at the end of October were 10.2 per cent greater than a month earlier, and 40.3 per cent greater than a year ago, and supplies of rosins, while 3.2 per cent smaller than for September, were 40.4 per cent greater than a year ago. Stocks of turpentine were greater than at the same time of any year since 1918, but stocks of rosin, while greater than for October 1925, and 1926, were smaller than for October 1921 to 1924 inclusive. The price of turpentine prevailing on the Savannah market was fairly steady at about 46 cents during the last half of October, but declined during the first week of November to approximately 43½ cents. There has also been a perceptible weakening in the prevailing price of the different grades of rosin. Receipts and stocks at the three principal market of the district are shown in the table:

	Oct. 1927	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1926
Receipts—Turpentine			
Savannah	19,522	24,215	16,069
Jacksonville	13,702	15,395	11,465
Pensacola	5,891	6,165	4,682
Total	39,115	45,775	32,216
Receipts—Rosin			
Savannah	68,246	79,217	56,028
Jacksonville	49,844	55,824	41,908
Pensacola	13,969	16,004	16,184
Total	132,059	151,045	114,120
Stocks—Turpentine			
Savannah	29,942	31,480	14,893
Jacksonville	37,214	31,265	31,381
Pensacola	13,317	10,274	10,646
Total	80,473	73,019	57,370
Stocks—Rosin			
Savannah	117,804	130,029	72,314
Jacksonville	91,623	83,157	65,859
Pensacola	12,740	16,240	20,037
Total	222,167	229,426	158,210

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 (Department Stores.)	August	Sept.	October	August	Sept.	October
	1927	1927	1927	1926	1926	1926
Atlanta.....	126.3	146.8	192.8	104.1	113.5	167.9
Birmingham.....	122.6	132.5	166.9	108.1	114.8	157.3
Chattanooga.....	74.6	85.7	124.9	69.8	78.6	119.9
Nashville.....	90.0	85.2	115.5	80.9	78.9	109.9
New Orleans.....	82.4	97.7	126.4	82.6	96.1	131.0
Other Cities.....	85.3	100.0	124.7	85.2	97.7	129.0
District.....	94.2	106.5	140.5	87.3	96.7	135.5
RETAIL TRADE U. S. (1)						
Department Stores.....	112.6	130.0	151.4	105.0	130.4	157.9
Mail Order Houses.....	112.2	126.4	158.0	97.8	119.6	149.7
Chain Stores:						
Grocery.....	385.4	384.1	422.1	295.3	303.1	329.4
Drug.....	215.5	210.4	233.6	194.8	192.4	209.0
Shoe.....	131.6	140.3	157.1	121.6	141.8	157.7
5 & 10 Cent.....	236.7	232.2	278.5	204.0	211.0	257.1
Music.....	98.3	125.5	128.1	131.1	137.5	151.0
Candy.....	207.8	223.4	233.0	193.8	218.1	226.8
Cigar.....	146.9	146.5	153.6	148.1	152.6	162.1
WHOLESALE TRADE 6TH DISTRICT						
Groceries.....	88.8	96.7	91.4	94.1	103.6	99.8
Dry Goods.....	121.6	136.7	114.2	93.0	117.5	113.2
Hardware.....	91.4	100.6	108.2	97.8	107.4	116.8
Shoes.....	81.6	88.5	89.6	66.1	84.1	75.9
Total.....	89.1	98.0	94.0	88.2	100.6	100.1
WHOLESALE PRICES U. S. (2)						
Farm products.....	102.2	105.9	105.0	97.2	99.3	97.9
Foods.....	94.2	96.5	100.0	97.5	99.8	100.8
Hides and leather products.....	111.7	112.5	113.0	99.7	98.8	101.0
Textile products.....	96.2	98.5	98.4	98.5	98.9	97.7
Fuel and lighting.....	84.1	84.2	83.8	100.6	101.5	101.3
Metals and metal products.....	98.0	97.6	97.1	101.0	101.2	101.0
Building materials.....	92.9	92.1	91.6	99.5	99.5	99.5
Chemicals and drugs.....	96.4	96.4	97.1	99.8	100.2	99.1
Housefurnishing goods.....	98.6	98.6	98.5	99.8	99.5	99.4
Miscellaneous.....	89.9	89.2	88.3	95.4	94.2	93.4
ALL COMMODITIES.....	95.2	96.5	97.0	99.0	99.7	99.4
BUILDING PERMITS 6TH DISTRICT						
Atlanta.....	116.8	142.1	95.7	87.3	113.0	123.9
Birmingham.....	397.7	709.9	681.0	556.2	422.8	625.8
Jacksonville.....	382.3	403.9	334.8	909.6	406.7	382.1
Nashville.....	203.9	453.0	276.3	138.8	342.4	128.8
New Orleans.....	436.1	278.8	293.7	153.9	251.5	1,428.8
Other Cities.....	225.0	286.7	218.3	502.4	482.5	533.3
District (20 Cities).....	252.1	307.6	252.5	397.4	346.9	517.7
COTTON CONSUMED:						
United States.....	118.4	117.3	114.6	93.6	106.8	106.3
Cotton-Growing States.....	157.2	156.6	152.1	121.8	139.3	136.9
All Other States.....	71.6	69.8	69.3	59.6	67.6	69.5
Cotton Exports.....	61.9	114.8	204.9	66.5	144.5	249.1
PIG IRON PRODUCTION:						
United States.....	115.6	108.9	109.2	125.6	123.1	130.8
Alabama.....	120.8	118.0	127.7	135.8	131.0	142.0
UNFILED ORDERS—U. S. STEEL CORPORATION	53.3	52.5	55.7	59.1	59.9	61.4

(1) Compiled by Federal Reserve Board.

(2) Compiled by Bureau of Labor Statistics. Base 1926—100.)