

MONTHLY REVIEW

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

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

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BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Industrial production continued during May in about the same volume as in the three preceding months. Wholesale and retail trade increased in May and the general level of commodity prices showed a further advance. Security loans of member banks, which were in record volume in May, declined considerably during the first three weeks in June. Conditions in the money market remained firm.

Production

Production of manufactures was slightly smaller in May than in April when allowance is made for usual seasonal variations, while the output of minerals increased somewhat. Production of steel declined in May from the high level attained in April but was in about the same volume as a year ago. Since the first of June buying of steel products has been light and there have been further decreases in production. Daily average production of automobiles was in about the same volume in May as in April and preliminary reports for the first three weeks in June indicate that factory operations were maintained at practically the same level. Activity of textile mills was somewhat larger in May and there were also increases in the slaughter of livestock and in the production of building materials, non-ferrous metals and coal, while the production of petroleum declined. The value of building contracts awarded during May, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation for 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains was larger than in any previous month, and awards during the first half of June exceeded those for the corresponding period of last year. Indicated production of winter wheat, as reported by the Department of Agriculture on the basis of June 1 condition, amounted to 512,000,000 bushels, 40,000,000 bushels less than the harvested production of 1927.

Trade

Distribution of merchandise, both at wholesale and at retail, was in larger volume in May than in April. Making allowances for customary seasonal influences, sales in all lines of wholesale trade showed increases, although in most lines they continued in smaller volume than a year ago. Department store sales were larger than in April, and at about the same level as a year ago, while sales of chain stores and mail order houses showed increases both over last month and over last year. Volume of freight-car-loadings increased further during May, but continued smaller than during the corresponding month of either of the two previous years. Loadings of miscellaneous commodities, however, which represent largely manufactured products, were larger in May of this year than in that month of any previous year.

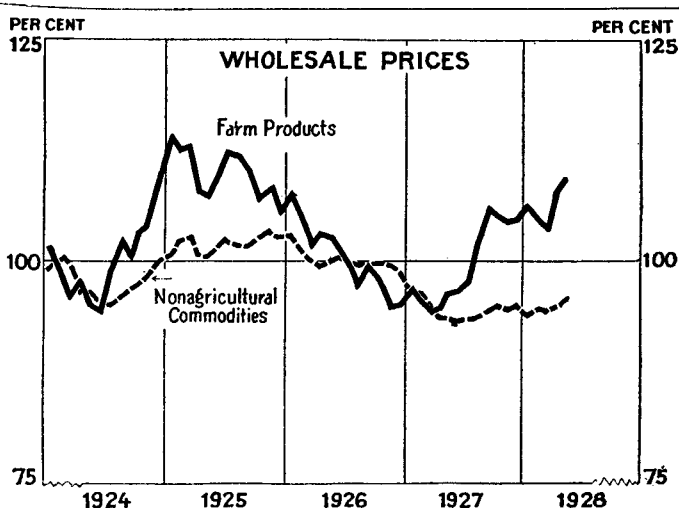
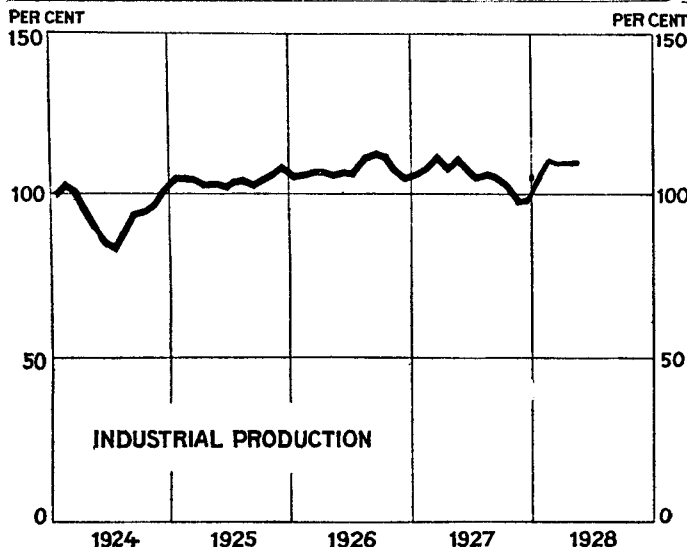
Prices

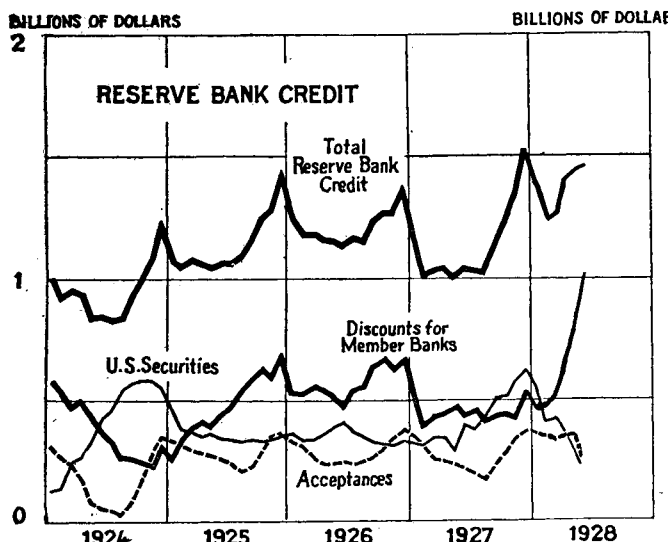
The general level of wholesale commodity prices, as indicated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index, increased in May by over one percent to 98.6 per cent of the 1926 average, the highest figure recorded for any month since October 1926. There were increases in most of the principal groups of commodities but the largest advances in May, as in April, occurred in farm products and foods. Contrary to the general trend, prices of pig iron, hides, raw silk, fertilizer materials, and rubber showed declines during the month. Since the middle of May there have been decreases in prices of grains, hogs, sheep, pig iron, and hides, while prices of raw wool, non-ferrous metals, lumber, and rubber have advanced.

Bank Credit

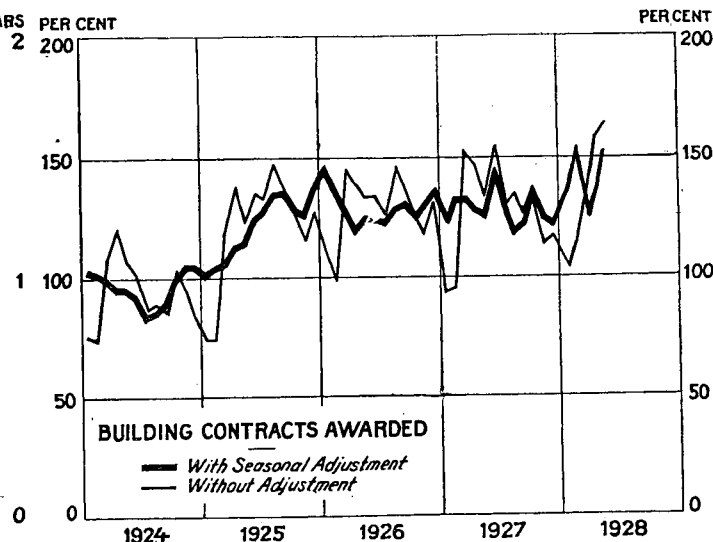
Loans and investments of member banks in leading cities on June 20, showed a decline from the high point which was reached on May 16. Loans on securities, which had increased by more than \$1,000,000,000 since May 1927, declined \$200,-

(Continued on Page Seven)





Monthly averages of daily figures for 12 Federal Reserve Banks. Latest figures are averages of first 22 days in June.



Federal Reserve Board's indexes of value of building contracts awarded as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation (1923-25 average =100). Latest figures May, adjusted index 152; unadjusted index 163.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Seasonal improvement in agricultural conditions, increases in the volume of trade at both retail and wholesale, in debits to individual accounts, time deposits, in the demand for credit, in building permits, and in the production of cotton cloth and yarn, and bituminous coal, are some of the principal developments in the sixth district during May and early June reflected in statistics gathered for the Monthly Review.

Retail trade in May was in greater volume than for any other month of 1928, and was greater than for May of any year since 1920. Wholesale trade in May increased over April, but was in smaller volume than a year ago. Agricultural conditions showed improvement at the beginning of June with the progress of the season and the advent of warmer weather, but conditions in the cotton belt were irregular and in some sections replanted cotton was just coming up. Prospects are for a much larger peach crop than last year, and citrus fruits are in better condition than a year ago. Savings deposits, and debits to individual accounts, increased in May over April, and were greater than in May last year, and failures declined in comparison with both of those periods. Discounts and investments of weekly reporting member banks increased somewhat between May 9 and June 13. Discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for all member banks increased sixteen million dollars during this period. Demand deposits of all member banks in the district declined seasonably in May compared with preceding months, but time deposits continued to increase. Building permits in the sixth district, for the first time in two years, were larger in May than in the same month a year earlier, and contract awards were also greater than in May last year. Operations of lumber mills reporting weekly to the Southern Pine Association, however, have averaged slightly below the standard since the latter part

of May. Consumption of cotton in the cotton-growing states was somewhat smaller in May this year than last, but the number of spindles active was greater, and production of cotton cloth and yarn by mills reporting to the Federal Reserve Bank was greater than in April, or in May last year. Production of bituminous coal in Alabama and Tennessee was greater than in May last year, but the output of pig iron in Alabama was smaller.

RETAIL TRADE

Retail distribution of merchandise in the sixth district during May, reflected in sales figures reported confidentially by 46 department stores located throughout the district, was greater than for any other month this year, and was in larger volume than during May of any other year since 1920. The index numbers for Atlanta and Birmingham for May are higher than for that month of any other year for which statistics are available. Sales figures for the district show an increase of 6.8 per cent over May last year, increases being shown at Atlanta, Birmingham, Nashville and New Orleans, but decreases at Chattanooga and "Other Cities". For the first five months of 1928, sales averaged 3.4 per cent greater than in the corresponding period of 1927. Stocks of merchandise on hand at the end of May declined 4.4 per cent compared with April, and were one-half of one per cent smaller than a year ago. Accounts receivable at the end of May declined one-tenth of one per cent compared with April, but were 13.4 per cent greater than a year ago. Collections during May increased 3.9 per cent over those in April, and were 7.2 per cent greater than in May 1927. The ratio of collections during May to accounts outstanding at the beginning of the month for 33 firms was 33.7 per cent; in April this ratio was 33.4 per cent, and in May last year 36.0 per cent. For May the ratio of collections to regular accounts outstanding for 33 firms was 36.0 per

CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING MAY 1928 AT 46 DEPARTMENT STORES

SIXTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Comparison of Net Sales			Comparison of Stocks		Rate of Stock Turnover			
May 1928 with May 1927	Jan. 1 to May 31, 1928 with same period in 1927		May 31, 1928 with May 31, 1927	May 31, 1928 with April 30, 1928	1927	May 1928	Jan. 1 to May 31, 1927	May 31, 1928
Atlanta (5)	+14.3	+16.2	- 6.4	- 6.7	.34	.32	1.58	1.36
Birmingham (5)	+21.0	+10.8	- 0.9	- 5.8	.22	.21	1.02	1.01
Chattanooga (6)	- 5.2	- 3.9	- 6.7	- 3.5	.20	.20	.95	.93
Nashville (5)	+ 4.8	+ 6.7	+ 6.1	- 8.6	.32	.28	1.37	1.24
New Orleans (5)	+ 4.7	- 2.6	+ 0.9	- 3.1	.18	.18	.98	.91
Other Cities (20)	- 2.2	- 3.8	+ 2.3	- 1.9	.24	.21	1.15	.99
District (46)	+ 6.8	+ 3.4	- 0.5	- 4.4	.24	.22	1.14	1.04

NOTE: The rate of stock turnover is the ratio of sales during given periods to average stocks on hand.

cent, and the ratio of collections against installment accounts reported by 9 firms was 17.1 per cent.

WHOLESALE TRADE

The distribution of merchandise at wholesale in the sixth district was somewhat greater in May than in April, but smaller than in May last year, as indicated in sales figures reported confidentially to the Federal Reserve Bank by 118 wholesale firms in eight different lines of trade. Sales of groceries, hardware, electrical supplies, shoes and drugs were in larger volume than in April, but sales of dry goods, furniture and stationery were smaller. Reports from firms dealing in furniture, shoes and drugs indicate larger sales volume than in May 1927, but the other lines showed decreases compared with that month. The index number of sales in the eight lines combined for May was 84.5, compared with 81.7 for April, and with 87.1 for May last year. Stocks of merchandise declined in May compared with April, and accounts receivable and collections show different comparisons in the different lines of trade, as indicated in the tables which follow. Index numbers by lines appear on page 8.

Groceries

Sales of groceries at wholesale during May were greater at each reporting city than in April, but averaged 6.6 per cent less than in May last year due to decreases at Jacksonville and Vicksburg. The decrease shown at Vicksburg compared with May 1927 was due to an unusually large volume of sales during May last year to relief agencies working in the flooded area. Stocks on hand declined in May, but were greater than a year ago. Accounts receivable were slightly larger than in April, and about the same as a year ago, and collections show increases in both instances. Percentage comparisons of reported figures are shown in the table:

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
Atlanta (4 firms)	+13.0	+ 2.9
Jacksonville (4 firms)	+ 0.0	-19.7
New Orleans (6 firms)	+ 9.9	+21.7
Vicksburg (3 firms)	+ 6.1	-43.2
Other Cities (15 firms)	+ 7.2	+ 1.7
DISTRICT (32 firms)	+ 7.2	- 6.6
Stocks on hand	- 5.7	+11.7
Accounts receivable	+ 1.5	- 0.2
Collections	+ 4.4	+ 1.5

Dry Goods

Reports from 22 wholesale dry goods firms show declines in sales during May compared with April, and with May last year. Stocks declined compared with April, but were somewhat greater than a year ago, accounts receivable show decreases in both instances, and collections increased 3.1 per cent over those in April, but were 4.2 per cent less than in May 1927.

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
Atlanta (3 firms)	-10.5	-16.4
Nashville (3 firms)	-11.4	-11.3
Other Cities (16 firms)	- 0.2	-10.8
DISTRICT (22 firms)	- 3.8	-11.4
Stocks on hand	- 4.6	+ 6.5
Accounts receivable	- 2.3	- 1.8
Collections	+ 3.1	- 4.2

Hardware

May sales of hardware at wholesale increased 5.2 per cent over sales in April, and averaged slightly less for the district than in May 1927. Stocks on hand were smaller in both instances, and accounts receivable increased over both of those months. Collections increased 2.4 per cent over April, but were 5.4 per cent less than in May last year.

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
Nashville (3 firms)	+10.8	+ 0.7
New Orleans (5 firms)	+ 7.7	+ 2.7
Other Cities (17 firms)	+ 1.7	- 3.9
DISTRICT (25 firms)	+ 5.2	- 0.8
Stocks on hand	- 5.8	- 1.2
Accounts receivable	+ 1.7	+ 0.3
Collections	+ 2.4	- 5.4

Furniture

Sales during May of furniture at wholesale were smaller than in April, but averaged 18.6 per cent greater than in May last year. Stocks, accounts receivable, and collections were smaller

than for either of those months. Percentage comparisons of reported figures are shown in the table:

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
Atlanta (5 firms)	- 6.7	+17.8
Other Cities (8 firms)	-11.4	+18.7
DISTRICT (13 firms)	-10.6	+18.6
Stocks on hand	- 5.2	- 2.1
Accounts receivable	- 5.3	-14.3
Collections	- 1.5	- 0.0

Electrical Supplies

Sales of electrical supplies at wholesale were greater in New Orleans in May than in April, or in May last year, but reports from other cities showed decreases in both instances. Stocks and collections show decreases compared with both of those months, and accounts receivable were 3.9 per cent greater than for April, but were 6.6 per cent smaller than for May last year.

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
New Orleans (4 firms)	+ 8.0	+ 8.5
Other Cities (7 firms)	- 3.9	- 7.0
DISTRICT (11 firms)	+ 0.4	- 1.4
Stocks on hand	-11.0	-34.1
Accounts receivable	+ 3.9	- 6.6
Collections	- 3.2	-13.2

Comparisons for the other three lines are shown only for the district as three or more reports were not received from a single city in any of these lines. Sales of shoes and drugs were greater than in April, or in May 1927, while sales of stationery showed decreases compared with both of those months. Accounts receivable reported by shoe firms declined 3.0 per cent compared with both the preceding month and the same month a year ago, and collections of shoe firms were 2.5 per cent smaller than in April, and 7.4 per cent less than in May last year.

Sales:	May 1928 compared with:	
	April 1928	May 1927
Shoes (5 firms)	+ 1.8	+ 1.0
Stationery (4 firms)	- 4.6	- 7.0
Drugs (6 firms)	+12.7	+ 8.1

AGRICULTURE

A recent report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture states that the growing season is rapidly making up for lost time, and that all crops have made rapid growth during the latter part of May, but are still decidedly late. Cotton is a spotted crop, with stands irregular, chopping completed in some sections and replanted cotton just coming up in others. Winter wheat production in the United States is estimated at 512,252,000 bushels. Production of peaches is estimated at 64,188,000 bushels, compared with about 45,500,000 bushels last year.

In the sixth district the prospects are for a much larger production of peaches than last year, according to the Department's estimates. The Georgia crop is estimated at 10,180,000 bushels, compared with 5,943,000 bushels in 1927; the Alabama crop at 1,328,000 bushels, compared with 540,000 bushels last year; Tennessee, 1,855,000 bushels, compared with 638,000 bushels last year; and Mississippi, 570,000 bushels, compared with 279,000 bushels last year. The Georgia report indicates that trees throughout most of the state are well fruited, moisture supply has been ample, and the fruit has made very good growth. The outlook for citrus fruits in Florida continues favorable, although a heavy drop is reported. The condition of oranges on June 1 was 80 per cent of normal, compared with 57 per cent a year ago, and the condition of grapefruit was 76 per cent compared with 52 per cent a year ago. Continuous rains and temperatures below normal have greatly delayed farm work in eastern Tennessee. Tobacco transplanting has been delayed. All small grains remain in poor condition as a result of winter freezes.

COTTON MOVEMENT—UNITED STATES

	(Bales)		
	Since August 1		
	1928	1927	1926
Receipts at all U. S. Ports	8,233,173	12,546,865	9,526,217
Overland across Miss., Ohio, Potomac, Rivers to Nor. Mills and Canada	957,215	1,529,450	1,432,658
Interior stocks in excess of those held at close of Commercial year	133,713	96,010	803,893

Southern Mills takings, net.....	4,253,000	4,430,969	3,948,510
Total 306 days	13,577,101	18,603,294	15,711,278
Foreign exports	7,037,295	10,386,014	-----
*American Mills, Nor. & Sou. & Can.	6,319,621	7,438,571	-----
American cotton thus far	13,461,000	16,032,000	13,744,000

*of which 1,527,919 by Northern Spinners against 2,350,699 last year and 4,791,702 by Southern Spinners against 5,087,872 last year.

Sugar Cane and Sugar Press reports indicate that during the latter part of May and early June temperatures have been more seasonal and have favorably affected the cane, but rains during a part of this time flooded the fields and prevented farm work. Cultivation is being pressed, however, to counteract the effect of the heavy rainfall, and prospects for the crop are improving rapidly.

SUGAR MOVEMENT (Pounds)

	Raw Sugar		
	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
Receipts:			
New Orleans	87,003,959	183,381,992	105,731,836
Savannah	6,719,503	49,667,557	32,256,353
Meltings:			
New Orleans	119,543,548	131,323,534	152,219,828
Savannah	24,812,035	32,249,541	31,103,894
Stocks:			
New Orleans	58,500,514	97,730,035	51,443,492
Savannah	36,622,261	54,714,793	37,404,071
Refined Sugar			
Shipments:			
New Orleans	106,751,375	116,710,526	157,593,710
Savannah	23,999,077	18,968,799	32,719,024
Stocks:			
New Orleans	62,948,319	58,350,183	71,040,707
Savannah	33,837,629	35,936,952	28,958,669

RICE MOVEMENT—NEW ORLEANS

Rough Rice (Sacks)			
	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
Receipts	13,393	12,583	29,897
Shipments	12,491	11,289	38,361
Stocks	9,145	8,243	16,381
Clean Rice (Pockets)			
Receipts	189,552	160,846	119,787
Shipments	203,261	205,148	119,681
Stocks	188,792	202,501	224,878

Rice Millers Association Statistics (Barrels)

Receipts of Rough Rice		
	May	Season to date
Season 1927-28	351,607	9,348,808
Season 1926-27	396,006	8,221,976
Distribution of Milled Rice		
Season 1927-28	909,718	9,373,620
Season 1926-27	700,427	8,036,646
Stocks of Rough and Milled Rice		
June 1, 1928	1,455,366	
June 1, 1927	1,400,980	

FINANCIAL

Savings Deposits Savings deposits held by 86 reporting member banks in the sixth district at the end of May were 1.4 per cent greater than a month earlier, and 5.0 per cent greater than at the same time a year ago. Totals for Atlanta, and for Branch Federal Reserve Bank cities are shown in the table, and reports from banks located elsewhere are grouped under "Other Cities".

(000 Omitted)					
	May 1928	April 1928	Comparison May-April 1928	May 1927	Comparison May '28-'27
Atlanta (7 banks)	\$ 45,530	\$ 44,564	+ 2.2	\$ 41,201	+10.5
Birmingham (4 banks)	25,524	25,354	+ 0.7	24,973	+ 2.2
Jacksonville (5 banks)	28,848	29,101	- 0.9	30,319	- 4.9
Nashville (8 banks)	27,883	27,898	- 0.1	24,536	+13.6
New Orleans (8 banks)	50,259	50,194	+ 0.1	49,030	+ 2.5
Other Cities (54 banks)	116,136	112,983	+ 2.8	110,039	+ 5.5
Total (86 banks)	294,180	290,094	+ 1.4	280,098	+ 5.0

Debits to Individual Accounts Debits to individual accounts at 26 reporting cities in the sixth district during May increased 3.0 per cent over April, and were 3.1 per cent greater than in May last year. The statement below indicates increases over May last year at seventeen cities, and decreases at nine cities. Monthly totals are derived from weekly figures by prorating the figures for those weeks which do not fall entirely within a single month.

(000 Omitted)			
	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
Alabama	\$ 159,946	\$ 141,848	\$ 144,637
Birmingham	2,066	2,230	2,935
Dothan			

Mobile	42,219	38,189	36,065
Montgomery	27,010	29,442	22,341
Florida			
Jacksonville	76,775	76,307	88,317
Miami	36,904	38,945	57,441
Pensacola	7,810	7,213	8,254
Tampa	42,276	39,639	51,545
Georgia			
Albany	3,901	3,685	4,417
Atlanta	163,237	155,159	152,808
Augusta	26,645	27,670	25,916
Brunswick	3,390	3,042	3,506
Columbus	14,558	13,574	14,455
Elberton	911	1,054	819
Macon	22,483	21,927	20,290
Newnan	2,163	2,128	1,874
Savannah	44,406	46,698	48,909
Valdosta	4,778	5,043	5,486
Louisiana			
New Orleans	323,317	324,311	302,707
Mississippi			
Hattiesburg	7,777	7,122	6,981
Jackson	27,159	24,554	20,633
Meridian	18,039	17,988	16,574
Vicksburg	6,646	6,774	6,459
Tennessee			
Chattanooga	53,249	47,932	49,426
Knoxville	34,356	38,510	35,737
Nashville	101,964	96,988	86,337
Total 26 Cities	\$1,254,985	\$1,218,962	\$1,216,869

Condition of Member Banks in Selected Cities Increases in discounts secured by stocks and bonds other than Government securities, in investments, and in borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta are the principal features of weekly reports for June 13 received from 32 member banks located in Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville and Savannah, compared with figures for May 9, shown in the last issue of the Review. Discounts secured by stocks and bonds reported by these banks on June 13 had increased \$5,281,000 over the total for May 9; loans secured by government securities, and all other loans, declined slightly during this period, and total loans and discounts on June 13 were \$4,208,000 greater than on May 9. Investments increased during this period, however, and total loans and investments on June 13 show an increase of \$7,479,000 over the total on May 9. Compared with figures for the corresponding report date last year, total loans show an increase of \$16,497,000, due to the larger volume of loans secured by stocks and bonds, the other classes showing decreases. Investments show an increase of \$8,331,000 over those held a year ago, and total loans and investments on June 13 were, therefore, \$24,828,000 greater than on the same report date of 1927. Time deposits declined slightly between May 9 and June 13, but were greater than a year ago, and demand deposits show increases over both of those periods. Borrowings by these reporting banks from the Federal Reserve Bank on June 13 totaled \$48,498,000, compared with \$30,896,000 on May 9, and with \$15,753,000 on June 15, 1927. Principal items in the weekly report, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

(000 Omitted)			
	June 13, 1928	May 9, 1928	June 15, 1927
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 5,060	\$ 5,086	\$ 5,214
Secured by Stocks and Bonds	133,289	128,008	106,354
All Other	370,932	371,979	381,216
Total Discounts	509,281	505,073	492,784
U. S. Securities	62,187	61,360	59,968
Other Stocks and Bonds	67,165	64,721	61,053
Total Loans and Investments	638,633	631,154	613,805
Time Deposits	242,453	243,025	239,008
Demand Deposits	337,387	336,406	327,912
Borrowings from F. R. Bank	48,498	30,896	15,753

Bank Deposits of All Member Banks Reports of net demand and time deposits held by all member banks in the sixth district are compiled as of the Wednesday preceding the 14th of each month. Demand deposits in this district have declined each month since January, but in May were somewhat greater than at the same time last year. Time deposits have increased each month since February, and in May were two per cent greater than in May 1927. Total figures are shown for comparison:

	Demand	Time
May 1928	\$607,138,000	\$471,907,000
April 1928	612,186,000	467,361,000
May 1927	601,350,000	462,732,000

Operations of the Federal Reserve Bank

The weekly statement of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for June 13 indicates that discounts for member banks in the sixth district continued to increase during May and early June, but shows declines in investments, and in note circulation, deposits and reserves. Total discounts on June 13 amounted to \$64,821,000, compared with \$48,785,000 five weeks earlier, and were more than double the total for the corresponding report date last year. Holdings of bills bought in the open market declined about three million dollars between May 9 and June 13, but on the latter date were more than nine millions greater than a year ago. Holdings of United States securities on June 13 were smaller than for either of the periods under comparison. Total bills and securities on June 13 were \$11,687,000 greater than on May 9, and were nearly thirty-eight millions greater than a year ago. Declines compared with both comparative dates are shown in reserves, and in deposits and Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation. Principal items in the weekly statement are shown in the table:

(000 Omitted)

	June 13, 1928	May 9, 1928	June 15, 1927
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 17,318	\$ 18,884	\$ 4,068
All Others	47,503	29,900	27,406
Total Discounts	64,821	48,785	31,474
Bills Bought in open market	19,074	22,185	9,860
U. S. Securities	5,224	6,463	9,591
Total Bills and Securities	89,119	77,432	51,225
Cash Reserves	117,478	140,760	180,199
Total Deposits	67,220	71,221	68,617
F. R. Notes in actual circulation	134,880	142,535	161,384
Reserve Ratio	58.1	65.9	78.3

Commercial Failures

According to statistics compiled by R. G. Dun & Co., commercial failures in the United States during May 1928 numbered 2,008, compared with 1,818 in April, and with 1,852 in May last year, and liabilities of failing firms totaled \$36,116,990 for May, compared with \$37,985,145 for April, and with \$37,784,773 for May 1927. Figures for the sixth district show decreases in both number and liabilities for May compared with the preceding month, and with the corresponding month last year. In the table are shown failures in the United States divided by Federal Reserve Districts.

District	Number May 1928	Liabilities May 1928	Liabilities Apr. 1928	Liabilities May 1927
Boston	201	\$ 3,558,326	\$ 2,384,602	\$ 5,536,440
New York	315	5,993,860	2,436,423	6,797,687
Philadelphia	85	2,693,285	2,005,049	752,612
Cleveland	157	2,377,568	7,055,049	3,225,890
Richmond	140	2,947,871	2,316,842	5,707,404
Atlanta	109	1,566,985	3,407,316	1,673,027
Chicago	293	7,456,484	5,531,131	5,465,359
St. Louis	138	1,663,143	1,208,376	539,209
Minneapolis	70	912,178	853,191	997,778
Kansas City	128	1,768,039	1,075,754	2,135,281
Dallas	68	2,214,149	1,283,614	1,220,408
San Francisco	306	2,965,102	4,427,764	3,743,678
Total	2,008	\$36,116,990	\$37,985,145	\$37,784,773

Gold Movement

Declines are shown in both exports and imports of gold during May. Exports of gold in May totaled \$83,689,000, compared with \$96,469,000 in April, and with only \$2,510,000 in May last year. Imports of gold during May totaled \$1,963,000, compared with \$5,319,000 in April and with \$34,212,000 in May 1927. For the five months ending with May, gold exports have totaled \$527,170,000, compared with \$102,003,000 for the same period a year ago, and imports have totaled \$62,975,000, compared with \$146,761,000 during the same period last year. During this five months period this year exports of gold have exceeded imports by \$292,611,000, while during the same period last year imports exceeded exports by \$118,730,000.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

United States Preliminary figures compiled by the United States Department of Commerce indicate that both exports and imports of merchandise increased in May compared with April, and with May a year ago. Exports in May were 16.2 per cent greater than in April, and 7.6 per cent greater than in May 1927, and imports increased 2.8 per cent over April,

and were 2.5 per cent greater than in May a year ago. Preliminary figures for May, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

	1928	1917
Exports:		
May	\$ 423,000,000	\$ 393,140,000
April	364,144,000	415,374,000
11 months ending with May	4,489,182,000	4,611,134,000
Imports:		
May	\$ 355,000,000	\$ 346,501,000
April	345,239,000	375,733,000
11 months ending with May	3,831,207,000	3,897,132,000

New Orleans

The value of merchandise imported into the United States through the port of New Orleans during March 1928, amounted to \$18,990,785, compared with \$20,576,259 for February, and with \$18,368,202 for March last year. Among the items imported in larger volume than in March 1927 are coffee, gasoline, creosote oil, sodium nitrate, and burlaps, while some of the other large items show decreases.

Exports of merchandise through the port of New Orleans during March 1928 totaled \$31,192,991, compared with \$28,063,290 in February, and with \$32,870,191 in March 1927. Lard, tobacco, long staple cotton, oak boards, gasoline and paraffin were exported in greater volume than in March last year, while wheat flour, short staple cotton, and other items moved in smaller quantities.

Grain Exports—New Orleans

Grain exports through the port of New Orleans for May show a large decrease compared with May last year, due principally to the large decline in the outward movement of wheat. Corn, oats and rye were also exported in smaller volume during May than in May 1927. For the season to date (July-May) wheat, corn, and oats have moved in somewhat smaller volume, but rye shows an increase, as indicated in the table:

	May 1928	May 1927	1928	1927
Wheat, bushels	52,430	1,171,532	8,044,964	8,804,315
Corn, bushels	150,535	351,705	3,569,781	4,053,774
Oats, bushels	67,978	73,816	852,867	1,113,082
Rye, bushels	96,428	205,814	1,028,030	651,628
Total	367,371	1,802,867	13,495,642	14,622,799

BUILDING

For the first time in two years, the volume of building permits issued at twenty regularly reporting cities in the sixth district in May showed an increase over the corresponding month a year ago. Permits issued during May at Atlanta amounted to nearly six million dollars, and the increase for the district is due principally to this large total at Atlanta. Nine of these twenty cities reported increases and eleven reported decreases. The index number for the district in May was 123.9 compared with 74.0 for April, and with 84.3 for May a year ago. The unusually large figure for Atlanta includes permits for a Mosque to be erected by the Shriners at a cost of nearly two million dollars, additions to a number of public school buildings, and other large projects.

Contracts awarded in the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountain reached a new peak again in May, exceeding the April total by about 25 million dollars, and exceeded the total for May last year by 21 per cent. In May this year 43 per cent of the total was for residential building, 22 per cent for public works and utilities, and 14 per cent for commercial buildings. Contracts awarded during May in the sixth district totaled \$32,497,484, greater by one third than the total for April, and 4.5 per cent greater than in May 1927.

	May 1928	May 1927	Percentage change
Alabama	No. Value	No. Value	in value
Anniston	32 \$ 79,485	23 \$ 75,300	+ 5.6
Birmingham	611 1,912,432	646 2,074,111	- 7.8
Mobile	142 212,793	80 302,080	- 29.6
Montgomery	205 470,330	77 186,660	+152.0
Florida			
Jacksonville	415 730,665	403 1,155,270	- 36.8
Miami	214 142,975	302 463,116	- 69.1
Orlando	96 77,925	122 133,407	- 41.6
Pensacola	57 87,000	62 89,133	- 2.4
Tampa	364 433,553	439 479,437	+ 0.8
*Lakeland	8 12,300	36 56,350	- 78.2
*Miami Beach	39 331,485	17 108,250	+202.2
Georgia			
Atlanta	372 5,910,349	439 1,131,575	+422.3
Augusta	183 110,057	153 185,025	- 40.5

Columbus	54	78,010	50	132,788	— 41.3
Macon	253	603,785	209	400,219	+ 50.9
Savannah	48	110,835	58	168,130	— 30.1
Louisiana					
New Orleans	266	802,542	178	721,985	+ 11.2
Alexandria	94	56,785	58	270,637	— 79.0
Tennessee					
Chattanooga	256	793,435	278	281,715	+181.6
Johnson City	17	64,840	13	26,975	+140.4
Knoxville	264	643,158	225	488,976	+ 31.5
Nashville	329	574,985	284	717,988	— 19.9
Total 20 Cities	4,272	\$13,945,944	4,099	\$ 9,484,577	+ 47.0
Index No.		123.9		84.3	

*Not included in totals or index numbers.

LUMBER

Preliminary figures for May, reported to the Southern Pine Association up to the middle of June by 95 subscribing mills, indicate that orders have fallen below shipments and production for the first time since last December. Shipments during May exceeded both orders and production, and stocks of reporting mills were somewhat smaller than the three-year average stocks of these mills. Orders booked during May by the 95 reporting mills totaled 242,179,608 feet, and were 5.5 per cent less than the month's output. Shipments during the month amounted to more than 281 million feet, exceeding production by 9.8 per cent, and exceeding the volume of orders booked during the month by 16.2 per cent. May production was 1.4 per cent less than the three-year average production of these mills, and stocks on hand at the end of May were nearly one per cent less than the three-year average stocks. Unfilled orders on hand at the end of May were 21.6 per cent less than the month's production. Weekly reports of operating time by reporting mills have indicated operations above normal through the week ending May 18, but since that time operations have been below normal, and for the week ending June 8 were nearly four per cent below normal. Preliminary figures for May, with comparisons, are shown in the table:

	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
95 mills	113 mills	109 mills	
Orders	242,179,608	310,628,650	269,669,120
Shipments	281,363,536	299,445,790	275,092,472
Production	256,161,840	280,953,818	264,953,093
Three-Year Average Production	259,763,710	295,025,989	278,534,183
Stocks on hand end of month	648,800,809	757,815,226	744,762,351
Three-Year Relative Stocks	653,903,187	742,668,922	733,147,700
Unfilled orders, end of month	189,985,232	277,086,420	186,735,870

TEXTILES

Cotton Consumption According to statistics compiled and published by the United States Census Bureau, the consumption of cotton in the United States increased in May, compared with April, but was in smaller volume than in May 1927. Consumption of cotton in the United States during May increased 10 per cent over April, but was 8.3 per cent less than in May last year. Stocks declined seasonally in May, and were smaller than at the same time a year ago. Exports in May increased about 22 per cent over April, but were about six per cent smaller than in May 1927. There was a decline of 1,905,044 in the number of spindles active in May, compared with April, and compared with May last year active spindles show a decrease of 3,844,896.

Statistics for the cotton growing states show an increase of 11.6 per cent in consumption in May compared with April, and a decrease of 3 per cent compared with May a year ago. Consumption in other states showed a decrease of 23.5 per cent compared with May last year. Spindles active in May in the cotton-growing states decreased 1,552, compared with April, while in other states there was a decrease of 1,903,492. Compared with May 1927, active spindles in the cotton-growing states in May this year show an increase of 148,832, while in other states there was a decrease of 3,980,884. The Census Bureau's statement indicates that 76.6 per cent of the total consumption of cotton in May was in the cotton-growing states, compared with 75.5 per cent in April, and with 72.1 per cent in May last year.

UNITED STATES (Bales)

	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
Cotton Consumed:			
Lint	577,710	525,158	629,928
Linters	62,000	57,513	71,988
Stocks in Consuming Establishments:			
Lint	1,331,135	1,507,992	1,792,261
Linters	211,580	222,374	226,174

Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses:

Lint	2,305,366	2,921,306	2,866,957
Linters	59,504	63,400	67,860
Exports	591,345	485,219	628,132
Imports	19,842	18,196	21,347
Active Spindles	29,060,360	30,965,904	32,905,256

Cotton Growing States (Bales)

	May 1928	April 1928	May 1927
Cotton Consumed	442,441	396,566	455,488
Stocks in Consuming Establishments	877,742	1,018,738	1,188,615
Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses	2,091,653	2,668,637	2,514,321
Active Spindles	17,820,608	17,822,160	17,671,776

Cotton Cloth

Confidential reports were rendered to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta by cotton mills which during May manufactured about 31 million yards of cloth, an output 10.4 per cent greater than in April, and 8.1 per cent greater than in May a year ago. Shipments during May also showed increases over both the previous month and the same month a year ago, as did also the number of workers, but orders and unfilled orders showed decreases in both instances. Stocks on hand declined compared with April, but were substantially larger than a year ago.

	May 1928 compared with:	April 1928	May 1927
Production	+10.4	+ 8.1	
Shipments	+13.6	+ 8.2	
Orders	-26.3	-36.5	
Unfilled orders	- 5.2	-30.1	
Stocks on hand	- 5.9	+67.4	
Number on payroll	+ 1.4	+ 2.1	

Cotton Yarn

Confidential reports were also rendered by mills which produced during May about seven million pounds of yarn, an increase of 11.5 per cent over production in April, and 3.7 per cent greater than in May last year. Shipments, orders, and number of workers increased in May over April, but unfilled orders and stocks decreased. Compared with May last year, stocks show an increase but other items show declines. Percentage comparisons of reported figures are shown in the table.

	May 1928 compared with:	April 1928	May 1927
Production	+11.5	+ 3.7	
Shipments	+ 6.6	+10.1	
Orders	+ 3.8	-17.2	
Unfilled orders	- 8.4	-29.5	
Stocks on hand	- 0.3	+56.3	
Number on payroll	+ 3.6	- 1.1	

Hosiery

Increases in orders, and in unfilled orders, but declines in production, shipments, stocks and cancellations are shown in figures reported to the Census Bureau for May and April by 38 identical establishments manufacturing hosiery in the sixth district. Total figures for the two months are shown in the table:

	(Dozen pairs)	May 1928	April 1928
Production	565,924	586,173	
Shipments	588,055	600,413	
Stocks on hand	1,744,345	1,758,339	
Orders booked	780,563	693,873	
Cancellations	20,081	36,295	
Unfilled orders	986,643	812,330	

COTTON SEED AND COTTON SEED PRODUCTS

	*Sixth District Aug. 1 to May 31 1928	1927	United States Aug. 1 to May 31 1928	1927
Cotton Seed, tons:				
Received at mills	1,427,227	1,953,347	4,545,439	6,269,847
Crushed	1,428,345	1,906,546	4,582,286	6,114,137
On Hand, May 31	25,346	53,913	52,437	171,852
Production:				
Crude Oil, lbs.	468,717,397	603,952,393	1,451,805,930	1,829,237,293
Cake and Meal, tons	621,808	821,102	2,060,901	2,743,824
Hulls, tons	412,756	580,330	1,300,025	1,800,168
Linters, bales	258,472	320,053	861,135	1,008,279
Stocks, May 31:				
Crude Oil, lbs.	9,508,144	14,562,495	39,889,300	41,680,738
Cake and Meal, tons	15,459	39,776	59,745	153,853
Hulls, tons	13,301	53,681	66,589	224,620
Linters, bales	18,393	34,196	83,166	120,883

*Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

**Not including stocks held by refining and manufacturing establishments, and in transit to refiners and consumers.

COAL

According to the preliminary estimate of bituminous coal production made by the Bureau of Mines of the

United States Department of Commerce, production in May was somewhat greater than in April, and also exceeded the output in May last year. The output in May was 13.8 per cent greater than in April, and 3.5 per cent greater than in May last year. The increase over April is due to the larger number of working days, and to a greater average production per working day, while the increase over May last year is due to the fact that there was one more working day in May this year. The total production of bituminous coal during the present calendar year to June 9, approximately 136 working days, amounts to 209,112,000 net tons, compared with 251,666,000 net tons produced in the same period last year. Weekly figures for the United States, and for Alabama and Tennessee, the coal producing states of the sixth district, are shown in the table:

Week Ended:	(000 Omitted)		Alabama		Tennessee	
	United States	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927
May 5	8,174	8,185	338	340	106	92
May 12	8,392	8,402	313	320	105	95
May 19	8,182	8,273	326	315	100	92
May 26	8,374	8,476	324	316	100	91
June 9	8,412	8,524

IRON

Statistics compiled and published by the Iron Age indicate a slightly larger total output of pig iron in the United States during May than in April, but because of the longer month, the daily average rate of production declined slightly. Total production of pig iron during May amounted to 3,283,856 tons, compared with 3,185,504 tons produced in April, and compared with 3,390,940 tons produced in May 1927. The index number of iron production, based upon the monthly average for the three-year period 1923-1925 represented by 100, was 109.9 for May, compared with 106.6 for April, and with 113.4 for May last year. The daily average rate of output during May was 105,931 tons, compared with 106,183 tons for April, and with 109,385 tons for May 1927. During May there was a net gain of three furnaces in active operation, eight furnaces having been blown in, and five shut down. On June 1 there were 198 furnaces active, compared with 195 a month earlier, and with 211 active on June 1 a year ago.

Statistics for Alabama indicate an increase in the total output during May, compared with April, but production was considerably less than in May a year ago. Total output in Alabama in May this year was 207,045 tons, compared with 199,487 tons in April, and with 250,456 tons in May last year. Iron age statistics indicate that on June 1 there were 17 furnaces active, a gain of one over the number active on May 1, and compared with 20 active on June 1, 1927. Recent press reports indicate that consumers are showing little interest in iron for the third quarter, and inquiries for that period are slow in developing. Shipments during May were sufficient to take care of output. Quotations on iron continue at \$16.00.

Unfilled Orders—U. S. Steel Corp'n

Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation, reported through the press, amounted at the end of May to 3,416,822 tons, a decrease of 455,311 tons compared with the total a month earlier, but larger than the total of 3,050,941 tons at the close of May a year ago. The total reported for May is the lowest since October last year.

NAVAL STORES

Receipts of both turpentine and rosin at the three principal naval stores markets of the district exhibited a

further seasonal increase in May, compared with preceding months, but in both instances were somewhat less than in the corresponding month last year. May receipts of turpentine were almost double those of April, but were 17 per cent smaller than in May last year. Receipts of rosin in May were about 75 per cent greater than in April, but were 21 per cent less in volume than in May 1927. Stocks of turpentine on hand at the close of May increased only slightly compared with the month before, and were 1.1 per cent smaller than a year ago, while supplies of rosin declined 8.5 per cent compared with those on hand at the end of April, and were 16 per cent smaller than a year ago. Receipts of both turpentine and rosin in May this year were greater, with the exception of May 1927, than in the same month of any of the past ten years. Except for May 1927, 1918 and 1919 stocks of turpentine were greater than for May of any other recent year, while supplies of rosin were smaller than at the same time of any recent year excepting May 1926, and 1920. While there was some improvement in the demand during the latter part of May prices for turpentine ranged from 47 to 50½ cents the last half of May and the first week of June. Prices of the different grades of rosin showed some improvement early in June. Receipts and stocks at the three principal markets of the district are shown in the table.

	May 1928	April 1928	May 1917
Receipts—Turpentine			
Savannah	19,720	9,125	25,243
Jacksonville	14,118	8,463	16,277
Pensacola	5,917	3,177	6,505
Total	39,764	20,765	48,025
Receipts—Rosin			
Savannah	59,730	29,260	78,031
Jacksonville	44,052	32,442	54,535
Pensacola	14,678	6,060	17,831
Total	118,460	67,762	150,397
Stocks—Turpentine			
Savannah	9,981	10,303	20,208
Jacksonville	20,832	19,656	24,408
Pensacola	15,978	15,499	2,648
Total	46,741	45,458	47,264
Stocks—Rosin			
Savannah	65,710	65,433	66,430
Jacksonville	51,226	68,455	62,523
Pensacola	11,953	6,917	24,492
Total	128,889	140,805	153,445

BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

(Continued from Page One)

000,000 while all other loans, including loans for commercial and agricultural purposes, increased somewhat. There was a small increase in total investments. During the four weeks ending June 20 there were withdrawals of nearly \$75,000,000 from the country's stock of gold, and the volume of reserve bank credit outstanding increased somewhat, notwithstanding a decline in member bank reserve requirements. Member bank borrowing at the reserve banks continued to increase and early in June exceeded \$1,000,000,000 for the first time in more than six years. Acceptance holdings of the reserve banks declined considerably, while there was little change in their holdings of United States securities.

After the middle of May firmer conditions in the money market were reflected in advances in open market rates to the highest levels since the early part of 1924.

MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS

The following index numbers, except as indicated otherwise, are computed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta monthly. The index numbers of retail and wholesale trade are based upon sales figures reported confidentially by representative firms in the lines of trade indicated, and the other series of index numbers are based upon figures reported to the bank or currently available through the daily or trade press. These index numbers, except as indicated in the foot-notes, are based upon the monthly averages for the three year period 1923-25 as represented by 100.

RETAIL TRADE 6th DISTRICT (Department Stores.)	Mar. 1928	April 1928	May 1928	Mar. 1927	April 1927	May 1927
Atlanta	152.4	131.8	157.8	114.0	124.8	138.0
Birmingham	115.7	102.5	120.8	102.5	102.7	99.8
Chattanooga	82.5	84.8	89.9	81.4	92.2	94.9
Nashville	106.0	94.2	119.5	93.9	96.2	114.1
New Orleans	100.9	95.2	97.7	95.3	109.5	93.3
Other Cities	109.7	104.6	109.8	106.1	114.2	111.6
DISTRICT	110.0	102.0	114.0	99.0	109.0	108.0
RETAIL TRADE U. S. (1)						
Department Stores	103.	101.9	107.2	100.	111.	102.
Mail Order Houses	125.	115.3	115.6	125.	120.	99.
Chain Stores:						
Grocery	209.	202.2	213.0	174.	172.	171.
5 & 10 Cent	133.	134.6	139.0	116.	135.	123.
Drug	163.	154.3	163.8	143.	144.	134.
Cigar	107.	99.8	110.0	111.	113.	113.
Shoe	117.	130.0	129.9	96.	150.	109.
Wearing Apparel	200.	194.6	220.8	148.	199.	171.
Candy	119.	129.7	126.8	115.	136.	115.
WHOLESALE TRADE 6th DISTRICT						
Groceries	91.8	80.6	86.4	95.4	84.9	92.5
Dry Goods	96.5	76.9	74.0	104.5	94.6	83.6
Hardware	88.7	81.1	85.3	91.3	90.4	85.5
Furniture	102.4	93.9	83.9	100.8	90.6	70.8
Electrical Supplies	75.1	78.2	78.5	88.1	89.3	79.8
Shoes	121.7	97.0	93.9	115.5	101.7	93.0
Stationery	76.3	71.5	68.2	87.7	71.4	73.3
Drugs	113.3	95.9	108.0	110.3	106.8	99.9
TOTAL	92.2	81.7	84.5	96.3	89.6	87.1
WHOLESALE PRICES U. S. (2)						
Farm products	103.5	107.6	109.8	94.2	94.3	96.3
Foods	98.0	99.5	101.2	94.5	94.6	94.4
Hides and leather products	124.0	126.7	126.3	100.5	101.7	103.7
Textile products	96.5	96.5	96.6	94.0	94.2	93.9
Fuel and lighting	80.8	80.8	81.8	90.0	84.9	83.9
Metals and Metal products	98.4	98.4	98.6	98.2	97.8	98.6
Building materials	91.0	92.5	93.5	95.3	95.0	95.1
Chemicals and drugs	95.6	95.8	95.3	97.1	97.8	95.4
Housefurnishing goods	98.3	97.9	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8
Miscellaneous	86.8	84.9	85.1	90.9	91.3	91.3
ALL COMMODITIES	96.0	97.4	98.6	94.5	93.7	93.7
BUILDING PERMITS 6th DISTRICT						
Atlanta	116.6	66.1	382.0	70.7	71.8	73.6
Birmingham	121.7	129.4	129.0	110.2	164.2	139.9
Jacksonville	92.2	112.4	88.8	124.1	202.2	140.4
Nashville	111.8	163.3	90.6	42.6	94.1	113.2
New Orleans	47.3	53.5	62.3	117.4	107.2	56.1
Other Cities	74.8	50.0	73.3	93.7	111.5	67.2
DISTRICT (20 Cities)	87.2	74.0	123.9	94.8	118.2	84.3
CONTRACTS AWARDED 6th DISTRICT	85.0	69.4	92.6	130.8	88.3	88.6
COTTON CONSUMED:						
United States	114.4	103.3	113.7	136.6	121.8	124.5
Cotton-Growing States	123.5	113.5	126.6	142.3	128.0	130.6
All Other States	94.3	80.9	85.1	124.0	108.2	111.2
Exports	100.0	78.9	96.2	183.8	139.2	102.2
PIG IRON PRODUCTION:						
United States	107.1	106.6	109.9	116.6	114.6	113.5
Alabama	96.2	85.9	89.2	116.7	108.3	107.8
UNFILLED ORDERS—U. S. STEEL CORPORATION	90.8	81.1	71.6	74.4	72.4	63.9

(1) Compiled by Federal Reserve Board.

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