

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

Industry continued active in October and the distribution of commodities was in large volume. Wholesale commodity prices declined sharply owing chiefly to decreases in the prices of farm products. Member bank credit in use increased in October and November while reserve credit outstanding showed little change. Conditions in the money market were somewhat easier.

Production Industrial production continued in October at the high level of September and considerably above the level of a year ago. Output of minerals increased over September, while the production of manufactures declined slightly. Factory employment and payrolls increased to the highest level since early in 1927. The production of pig iron was particularly large in October and the first half of November, and the output of steel continued in record volume. Automobile production declined considerably in October after exceptional activity in September, and showed further reduction in November, as is usual at this season. Activity increased in October in meat-packing and in the textile industries, with the exception of silk. Copper mining and smelting continued at a high level, and the output of coal and petroleum increased by more than the usual seasonal amount, while the production of zinc declined. There was also a decline in the output of lumber and building materials. Building contracts awarded continued to increase in October and were larger than in that month of any previous year, but declined sharply during the first two weeks of November. The increase in October was due principally to large contracts for engineering and industrial projects. The November cotton crop estimate of the Department of Agriculture was slightly larger than the October estimate and indicated a yield of 14,133,000 bales, 1,173,000 more than the production of 1927. Ginnings of the current crop prior to November 14 totaled 11,320,302 bales, compared with 10,894,912 in the similar period of a year ago. Indi-

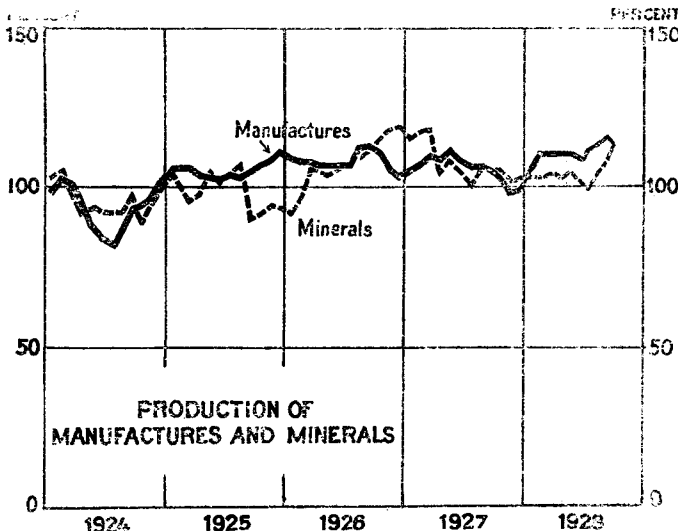
cated yields of wheat, corn, oats, potatoes and tobacco were larger than the 1927 crops, while estimates of hay, rye, and flaxseed were smaller.

Trade Department store sales in October were in about the same volume as in the same period in the preceding year, but showed somewhat less than the seasonal increase from the high level of September. Inventories of these stores increased during the month, but continued smaller than a year ago. The volume of distribution at wholesale was larger than in September and showed substantial gain over October 1927. Freight carloadings continued larger in October and November than a year ago, reflecting chiefly large loadings of miscellaneous freight.

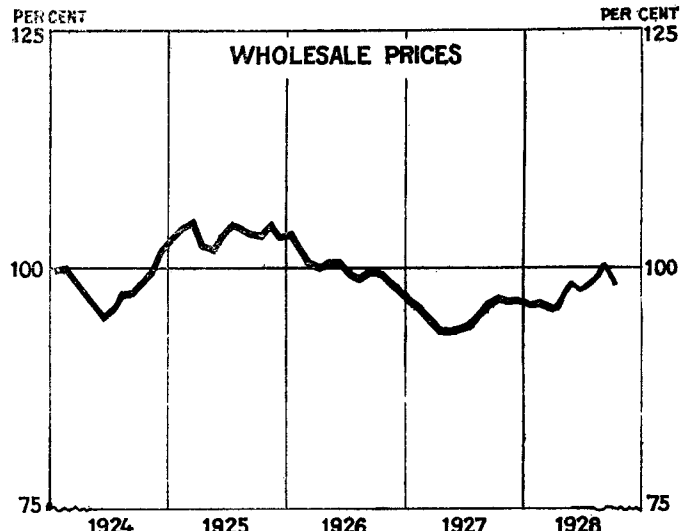
Prices Wholesale commodity prices declined in October after a continuous increase for three months and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index for October at 97.8 per cent of the 1926 average, was over 2 per cent below that for September. This decline reflected chiefly large decreases in prices of farm and food products and hides and leather. Prices of industrial commodities increased slightly, with small gains recorded in metals, building materials, and chemicals and drugs. The principal increases occurred in prices of iron and steel, copper and raw silk. During the first three weeks of November prices of cotton, pig iron, copper and petroleum increased, and prices of most farm and food products, except corn, pork and sugar, recovered somewhat after the October decline.

Bank Credit Between October 24 and November 21 there was a considerable increase in loans and investments of member banks in leading cities, but at the end of this period the total was still below the large volume outstanding at the middle of the year. Loans chiefly for commercial purposes remained at a high level

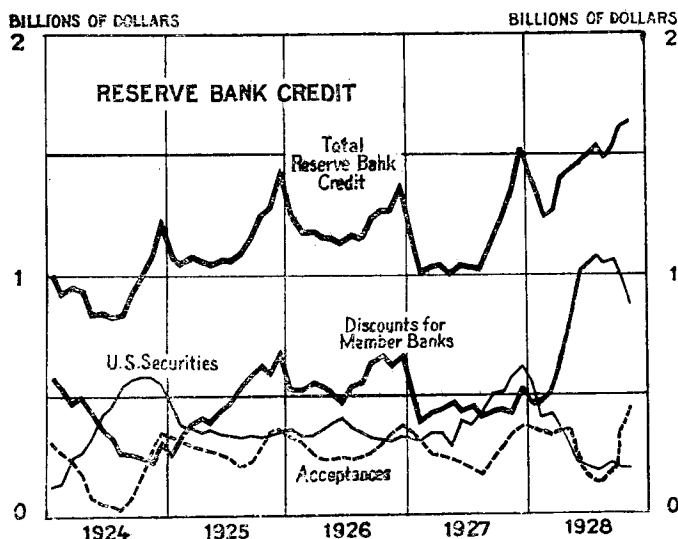
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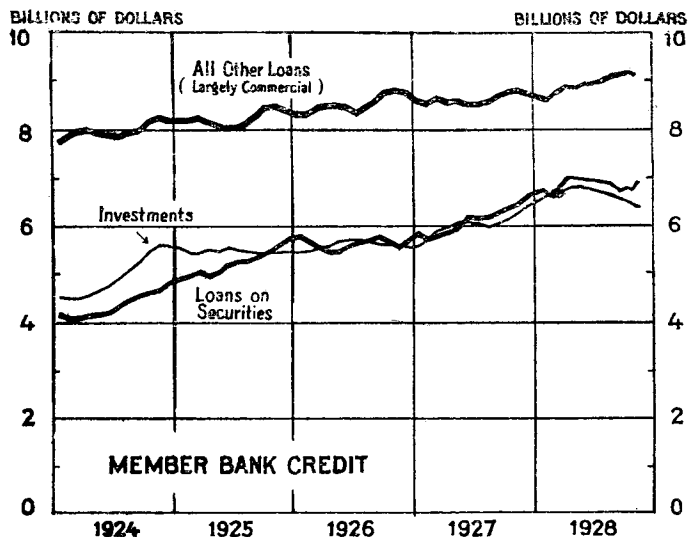
Index numbers of production of manufactures and minerals, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average—100.) Latest figures, October manufactures 114; minerals 114.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1926—100, base adopted by bureau.) Latest figures October 97.8.



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 the first three weekly report dates in November.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Both retail and wholesale trade registered further seasonal gains in volume of sales in October compared with preceding months. October sales by reporting department stores increased 25.6 per cent over September, but were 3.4 per cent smaller than in October last year. Sales by all reporting wholesale firms in October averaged 9.2 per cent greater than in September, but 2.7 per cent less than in October 1927. Collections in both wholesale and retail trade showed considerable improvement over September. November crop estimates by the United States Department of Agriculture show small increases over those of a month earlier for some of the principal crops of this district, among them corn, potatoes, cotton, rice and sugar. Savings deposits declined slightly in October, and for the first time in several years show a decrease compared with the same date a year ago. Debits to individual accounts at 26 reporting cities of the district increased 17.5 per cent over September, but were 2.6 per cent less than in October last year. After declining each month since January, demand deposits of all member banks in the district increased in October over September, but were less than a year ago. Discounts for customers by 31 reporting member banks in certain cities of the district increased slightly between October 10 and November 14, and their borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta declined. Discounts by the Federal Reserve Bank for all member banks in the district declined nearly ten million dollars this period. Building permits at twenty reporting cities of the district increased slightly over September, but were 4.5 per cent less than for October 1927. Contract awards in the district, however, were about 39 per cent greater than for September, or for October last year. Cotton consumption increased in October, and production of cotton cloth and yarn by reporting mills in this

district was greater than in September or in October last year. Production of pig iron in Alabama increased 12.6 per cent in October over September.

RETAIL TRADE

The distribution of merchandise at retail in the sixth district, as reflected in sales figures reported confidentially to the Federal Reserve Bank by 45 department stores located throughout the district, increased seasonally in October to the highest level reached so far in 1928, although slightly less in volume than in October last year. Stocks of merchandise increased seasonally also, but were slightly smaller than a year ago, and collections were better than for the preceding month or for the same month last year. October sales by these 45 reporting firms were 25.6 per cent greater than in September, but averaged 3.4 per cent less in aggregate volume than in October last year. The index number of October sales this year is somewhat lower than that for October of 1927, 1925, 1923 and 1920, but higher than for that month in other recent years. Total sales during the first ten months of this year have been greater by 7.9 per cent than during the same period last year. Stocks of merchandise on hand at the end of October increased at all reporting cities, averaging 5.3 per cent greater than a month earlier, but were smaller than a year ago except at Chattanooga. Accounts receivable at the end of October were 9.2 per cent greater than a month earlier, and 7.2 per cent greater than a year ago. October collections increased 22.3 per cent over those in September, and were 5.6 per cent greater than in October 1927. The ratio of collections during October to accounts receivable and due at the end of September, for 32 firms, was 33.1 per cent; for September this ratio was 29.0 per cent, and for October last year 35.9 per cent. For October, the

CONDITION OF RETAIL TRADE DURING OCTOBER 1928 AT 45 DEPARTMENT STORES

SIXTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	Comparison of Net Sales		Comparison of Stocks		Rate of Stock Turnover		Jan. 1 to Oct. 31,	
	Oct. 1928 with Oct. 1927	Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1928 with the same Period in 1927	Oct. 31, 1928 with Oct. 31, 1927	Oct. 31, 1928 with Sept. 30, 1928	October 1927	October 1928	1927	1928
Atlanta (5)	- 2.1	+12.3	- 1.0	+ 2.6	.40	.32	3.16	2.72
Birmingham (5)	+ 1.6	+ 5.6	- 7.7	+ 9.0	.30	.24	2.29	2.01
Chattanooga (6)	- 9.7	- 4.1	+ 6.3	+ 6.3	.27	.23	1.97	1.89
Nashville (4)	+ 2.6	+ 7.1	- 1.1	+ 7.5	.30	.27	2.65	2.42
New Orleans (5)	- 4.3	- 3.3	- 3.8	+ 5.8	.22	.19	1.90	1.71
Other Cities (20)	- 7.5	- 4.1	- 3.8	+ 3.1	.24	.20	2.27	1.87
District (45)	- 3.4	+ 1.9	- 2.9	+ 5.3	.28	.23	2.29	2.02

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

ratio of collections against regular accounts outstanding on the first of the month for 32 firms was 35.5 per cent, and the ratio of collections against installment accounts, for 9 firms, was 16.5 per cent.

WHOLESALE TRADE

The total volume of wholesale trade for all lines reported on in the sixth district increased seasonally in October and was in greater volume than for any month since October of last year. Total sales by all reporting firms in eight different lines of wholesale trade averaged 9.2 per cent greater than in September, but were 2.7 per cent smaller than in October 1927. Stocks of merchandise averaged 1.0 per cent greater than at the end of September, and 1.2 per cent greater than a year ago. Accounts receivable averaged 2.8 per cent greater than for September, and were smaller by less than one per cent than for October last year. Collections by all reporting firms during October increased 21.4 per cent over September, but were 5.1 per cent less than in October 1927. Percentage comparisons of reported figures in the eight reporting lines of trade are shown in the paragraphs which follow, and index numbers will be found on the last page of this Review.

Groceries Sales of groceries at wholesale during October were greater than during September at all reporting cities, and exceeded sales in October a year ago except at Jacksonville. Increases over both of those periods are shown in stocks, accounts receivable, and collections, as indicated in the table.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Atlanta (3 firms)	+14.7	+12.6
Jacksonville (3 firms)	+12.0	-0.9
New Orleans (6 firms)	+14.7	+11.6
Vicksburg (3 firms)	+6.1	+45.8
Other Cities (15 firms)	+11.6	+1.4
DISTRICT (30 firms)	+12.1	+8.0
Stocks on hand	+4.4	+9.0
Accounts receivable	+3.1	+3.0
Collections	+20.0	+8.4

Dry Goods Increases in sales of dry goods at wholesale at Atlanta and Other Cities in October, compared with September, were more than offset in the district average by decreases at Nashville and New Orleans, and total sales for October show a decrease of 5.1 per cent compared with September, and were 18.9 per cent less than in October a year ago. Stocks on hand declined 1.2 per cent compared with September, but were slightly greater than a year ago. Accounts receivable and collections increased over September, but were less than for October last year.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Atlanta (3 firms)	+1.7	-29.1
Nashville (3 firms)	-17.2	-16.9
New Orleans (4 firms)	-19.7	-25.0
Other Cities (15 firms)	+5.1	-15.8
DISTRICT (25 firms)	-5.1	-18.9
Stocks on hand	-1.2	+0.7
Accounts receivable	+1.9	-9.1
Collections	+59.1	-21.2

Hardware Sales of hardware at wholesale during October were 13.0 per cent greater than in September, but were in smaller volume than during October last year, except at New Orleans. Stocks and collections were greater than for September, but less than for October last year, while accounts receivable show increases over both of those periods.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Nashville (4 firms)	+5.4	-7.5
New Orleans (5 firms)	+11.8	+5.3
Other Cities (19 firms)	+16.8	-8.8
DISTRICT (28 firms)	+13.0	-4.5
Stocks on hand	+1.0	-1.3
Accounts receivable	+3.5	+2.6
Collections	+16.7	-8.4

Furniture October sales of furniture at wholesale averaged 1.4 per cent smaller in volume than in September, and 5.7 per cent less than in October

last year. Stocks declined compared with September, but were somewhat greater than a year ago, and accounts receivable and collections increased over both of those periods, as indicated in the table.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Atlanta (5 firms)	-9.6	-15.0
Other Cities (8 firms)	+0.4	-3.7
DISTRICT (13 firms)	+1.4	-5.7
Stocks on hand	-5.6	+5.4
Accounts receivable	+1.2	+2.5
Collections	+28.3	+1.7

Electrical Supplies October sales of electrical supplies at wholesale averaged 20.6 per cent greater than in September, and were 8.0 per cent greater than in October 1927. Stocks and accounts receivable increased over September, but were less than for October last year. Collections were 7.0 per cent greater than in September, but in about the same volume as in October a year ago.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
New Orleans (4 firms)	+8.9	+1.8
Other Cities (9 firms)	+26.9	+11.1
DISTRICT (13 firms)	+20.6	+8.0
Stocks on hand	+5.6	-4.4
Accounts receivable	+5.7	-3.0
Collections	+7.0	+0.2

Sales of shoes, stationery and drugs increased in October compared with September, but were less than in October 1927, as indicated in the percentage comparisons shown below.

Sales:	Oct. 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Shoes: Sales	+4.0	-15.9
Stationery: Sales	+21.0	-5.9
Drugs: Sales	+9.7	-1.6
Accounts receivable	+2.0	+0.8
Collections	+4.4	-10.7

A G R I C U L T U R E

The November crop report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture states that little change in crop prospects occurred during October. The generally warm weather facilitated the harvesting of late crops. Rice, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cotton, beans, peanuts, sugar beets, apples, pears, oranges, grapefruit and grapes are all showing yields slightly above expectations, but the estimates of corn, tobacco and buckwheat have been reduced slightly.

Figures for the sixth district for November indicate an increase in the corn crop in this district over the estimate on October 1, but corn, oats and hay show decreases compared with last year's production. Estimated production of tobacco and potatoes was larger than a month ago, and these crops are also greater than for 1927. More corn was produced in Florida and Louisiana this year than last, but less in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Potatoes show increases in all six states over last year. Sweet potatoes show an increase in Alabama, but decreases in the other five states. Apples, pears, and grapes show increases over last year in all six states. Crops of peanuts were larger than a year ago in Alabama and Florida, but smaller in the other four states. In the table are shown the estimated production of some of the principal crops in this district during the 1928 season, compared with 1927 crop.

	(000 omitted)	Estimate Nov. 1928	Final 1927	Percentage Comparison
Corn, bu.		151,473	184,477	-17.9
Oats, bu.		10,600	14,282	-25.8
Hay, tons		3,028	3,038	-0.2
Tobacco, lbs.		160,455	121,134	+32.5
White Potatoes, bu.		15,751	12,308	+28.0

Note: Parts of Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana are situated in other Federal Reserve Districts.

Cotton The November cotton report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture places this season's cotton crop at 14,133,000 bales. This is 140,000 larger than the October forecast, and is larger than the 1927 crop by 1,178,000 bales. The report indicates that the full effect of the hurricane in Florida, Geor-

gia, and the Carolinas was responsible for a decline of 190,000 bales in those states. The increase of 140,000 bales for the country as a whole over the October estimate was ascribed by the Department to better-than-average weather conditions during October in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. For the six states comprising the sixth Federal reserve district the November forecast is 3.5 per cent greater than that of October, but 2.8 per cent smaller than final yields last year. Ginnings in these six states up to November 1 were 10 per cent less than during the same period last year, but for the country as a whole ginnings up to November 1 exceeded those of a year ago by 2.4 per cent. Ginnings in the six states of this district up to November 1 amounted to 79 per cent of the estimated crop. Detailed comparisons are shown in the table.

	Estimate		Final 1927
	Nov. 1, 1928	Oct. 1, 1928	
Alabama	1,000,000	930,000	1,191,000
Florida	18,000	18,000	17,000
Georgia	995,000	1,060,000	1,100,000
Louisiana	660,000	580,000	548,000
Mississippi	1,390,000	1,320,000	1,355,000
Tennessee	380,000	385,000	359,000
Total 6 states	4,443,000	4,293,000	4,570,000
United States	14,133,000	13,993,000	12,955,000

	Ginnings to November 1 (Bales)	
	1928	1927
Alabama	817,264	1,085,807
Florida	17,553	16,527
Georgia	783,291	1,009,013
Louisiana	586,561	476,102
Mississippi	1,097,729	1,112,120
Tennessee	218,549	220,291
Total 6 states	3,520,947	3,919,860
United States	10,160,977	9,920,846

Sugar Cane and Sugar The November report of the United States Department of Agriculture places the estimate of this year's sugar production in Louisiana at 171,083 short tons, compared with 70,793 tons produced last year. Some improvement was shown during October. Harvesting is now going forward rapidly, and the laying down of seed cane for next year's crop has made good progress. Grinding has commenced, and all operating factories are working to capacity.

SUGAR MOVEMENT (Pounds)

	Raw Sugar		October 1927
	October 1928	September 1928	
Receipts:			
New Orleans	89,778,237	150,874,600	104,999,879
Savannah	26,317,350	29,413,957	27,076,402
Meltings:			
New Orleans	123,388,038	126,605,354	84,469,550
Savannah	41,312,484	17,858,675	29,784,360
Stocks:			
New Orleans	18,531,772	52,604,265	40,325,536
Savannah	5,053,090	18,048,224	5,183,358
Shipments:			
New Orleans	104,056,573	123,643,702	102,356,263
Savannah	34,373,221	25,154,505	18,625,985
Stocks:			
New Orleans	64,136,710	53,682,180	62,342,193
Savannah	9,603,392	6,181,621	16,344,353

Rice The November estimate of the Department of Agriculture indicates the production of 16,594,000 bushels of rice in Louisiana, compared with 19,443,000 bushels produced in 1927. The acreage sown to rice this year was 481,000 acres, compared with 496,000 acres last year. Harvesting and threshing operations have made excellent progress.

FINANCIAL

Savings Deposits Savings deposits at the end of October held by 84 reporting banks in the sixth district declined nearly one-half of one per cent compared with September, and were three-tenths of one per cent smaller, in the aggregate, than savings deposits held by these same banks at the close of October 1927. This is the first time in several years that savings deposits have shown a decline compared with the corresponding period a year earlier. Increases over October a year ago are shown for Atlanta, Birmingham, and Other Cities, and decreases for Jacksonville, Nashville and New Orleans. 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)

	Comparison		Comparison	
	Oct. 1928	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927	Oct. '28-'27
Atlanta (7 banks)	\$ 43,171	\$ 42,453	+ 1.7	\$ 42,213 + 2.3
Birmingham (4 banks)	25,551	25,489	+ 0.2	24,862 + 2.8
Jacksonville (5 banks)	23,284	29,628	- 4.5	28,702 - 1.5
Nashville (8 banks)	26,735	26,495	+ 0.9	27,344 - 2.2
New Orleans (7 banks)	47,262	47,325	- 0.1	48,967 - 3.5
Other Cities (53 banks)	114,751	115,591	- 0.7	114,415 + 0.3
Total (84 banks)	285,754	286,981	- 0.4	286,503 - 0.3

Debits to Individual Accounts The volume of debits to individual accounts by banks in the 26 reporting cities of the sixth district, reflecting the volume of business transactions settled by check, increased 17.5 per cent in October over the September total, but was 2.6 per cent smaller than for October last year. Thirteen of these cities showed increases over October 1927, and thirteen decreases. The monthly totals 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. 1928	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Alabama			
Birmingham	\$173,783	\$142,706	\$176,921
Dothan	5,711	4,183	4,805
Mobile	44,580	37,029	40,653
Montgomery	31,601	25,591	34,027
Florida			
Jacksonville	72,989	63,750	77,470
Miami	26,026	20,862	33,679
Pensacola	8,754	7,098	7,443
Tampa	36,813	31,756	41,135
Georgia			
Albany	4,936	4,307	6,245
Atlanta	179,172	151,354	180,206
Augusta	33,283	24,263	35,705
Brunswick	3,789	3,346	3,948
Columbus	19,223	14,652	16,067
Elberton	1,827	948	1,812
Macon	29,452	21,044	26,337
Newnan	3,240	2,054	2,960
Savannah	53,162	44,425	58,188
Valdosta	5,474	5,729	5,989
Louisiana			
New Orleans	366,543	327,368	396,565
Mississippi			
Hattiesburg	8,866	7,629	7,713
Jackson	31,137	25,482	30,509
Meridian	19,949	17,887	18,757
Vicksburg	10,091	7,544	9,483
Tennessee			
Chattanooga	52,674	49,226	53,622
Knoxville	37,460	34,744	36,026
Nashville	112,336	93,192	103,158
TOTAL 26 cities	\$1,372,371	\$1,168,169	\$1,409,423

Condition of Member Banks in Selected Cities Weekly reports received from 31 member banks located in Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Nashville, Chattanooga,

Knoxville and Savannah indicate that there was a decline in their loans to customers secured by stocks and bonds during the five weeks period between October 10 and November 14, but an increase in "All Other Loans," which are largely for commercial, agricultural and industrial purposes. Loans by these banks secured by government securities increased during this period by \$590,000, but those secured by other stocks and bonds decreased by \$5,599,000. All other loans and discounts, however, increased \$7,847,000, and there resulted an increase in total loans and discounts during the period of \$2,838,000. Compared with figures for the corresponding report date a year ago, loans to customers secured by stocks and bonds other than government securities show an increase of over 20 millions, but those secured by government obligations declined more than half, and All Other loans declined more than ten millions. Total loans and discounts show an increase over that date of \$6,139,000. United States securities were owned by these banks in smaller volume on November 14 than five weeks earlier, or a year ago, but other stocks and bonds were owned in somewhat greater volume. Total loans and investments on November 14 were \$517,000 greater than five weeks earlier, and were \$14,004,000 greater than on the corresponding report date last year. Both time and demand deposits increased somewhat over figures for October 10, but were smaller than at the same time a year ago. Borrowings by these banks from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta declined by

\$5,336,000 between October 10 and November 14, but on the latter date were \$25,198,000 greater than a year ago. Principal figures in the weekly report are shown in the table, with comparisons.

(000 Omitted)

	Nov. 14, 1928	Oct. 10, 1928	Nov. 16, 1927
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 3,363	\$ 2,773	\$ 7,318
Secured by Stocks and Bonds	134,666	140,265	114,216
All Other	367,963	360,116	378,319
Total Discounts	505,992	503,154	499,853
U. S. Securities	58,631	63,758	64,116
Other Stocks and Bonds	74,727	71,921	61,377
Total Loans and Invstm'ts	639,350	638,833	625,346
Time Deposits	234,304	234,230	245,282
Demand Deposits	323,549	317,020	387,955
Borrowings from F. R. Bank	42,205	47,541	17,007

Bank Deposits of All Member Banks Reports of net demand and time deposits held by all member banks in the district are compiled as of the Wednesday preceding the 14th of each month. Demand deposits increased \$10,418,000 in October over September, after declining each month since January, but were about 46 millions less than in October a year ago. Time deposits, following declines in August and September, increased 1.9 millions in October, and were 3.4 millions greater than at the same time last year. Figures in the table show total deposits for each month of the year, compared with corresponding months last year.

(000 Omitted)

	Demand		Time	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
January	\$ 634,598	\$ 635,846	\$ 465,326	\$ 443,142
February	625,307	637,019	461,400	451,322
March	621,048	618,079	465,757	453,357
April	612,186	614,672	467,351	456,010
May	607,138	601,350	471,907	462,732
June	596,668	587,188	471,953	460,112
July	578,233	574,848	475,096	460,957
August	556,721	579,772	471,665	456,919
September	550,543	600,597	466,857	458,129
October	560,961	606,959	468,768	465,342

Operations of the Federal Reserve Bank The weekly statements of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta indicate that total bills and securities held by the bank increased from \$101,963,000 on October 10, to \$107,070,000 during the three weeks following, but declined to \$100,525,000 on November 14. During this five weeks period, discounts for member banks secured by government obligations declined \$3,701,000, and All Other Discounts declined \$6,052,000. Holdings of bills bought in the open market increased a little more than 10 millions during this period, but holdings of United States securities declined by \$1,781,000. A comparison of these holdings on November 14 this year with the corresponding report date last year shows increases in discounts and in holdings of bills bought in the open market, but a decline in holdings of United States securities. Total bills and securities are more than double those held on November 16, 1927. Total deposits, and Federal reserve notes in actual circulation both increased over figures for October 10, but were lower than for the same time last year, and cash reserves show similar comparisons. Principal items in the weekly statement, for the three report dates under comparison, are shown in the table.

(000 Omitted)

	Nov. 14, 1928	Oct. 10, 1928	Nov. 16, 1927
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 20,239	\$ 23,940	\$ 6,611
All Others	47,554	53,606	23,220
Total Discounts	67,793	77,546	29,831
Bills Bought in open market	27,762	17,667	2,617
U. S. Securities	4,969	6,750	14,845
Total Bills and Securities	100,525	101,963	47,293
Cash Reserves	103,435	98,209	181,281
Total Deposits	68,908	65,098	71,053
F. R. Notes in actual circulation	129,116	128,227	151,825
Reserve Ratio	52.2	50.8	81.3

Gold Movement The export of gold during the past three months has been very much smaller than during the first seven months of the year, and the figures compiled by the United States Department of Commerce show that only \$990,000 of gold was exported in October. This compares with \$3,810,000 in September, and with \$10,698,000 in October 1927. Imports of gold

during October totaled \$14,310,000, compared with \$4,273,000 in September, and with \$2,056,000 in October 1927.

Commercial Failures Commercial failures in the United States during October, according to statistics compiled by R. G. Dun & Co., were more numerous than in September or in October last year, and liabilities were greater than for September but less than for October 1927.

Figures for each district are shown in the table.

District	Number Oct. 1928	Liabilities Oct. 1928	Liabilities Sept. 1928	Liabilities Oct. 1927
Boston	217	\$ 4,592,407	\$ 5,842,687	\$ 3,395,679
New York	412	9,608,814	9,509,984	9,502,069
Philadelphia	113	2,713,365	2,336,345	952,548
Cleveland	162	2,359,380	3,715,998	7,009,505
Richmond	166	1,633,835	2,700,752	1,761,672
Atlanta	131	1,965,866	1,788,026	902,276
Chicago	285	6,113,449	3,246,073	4,856,717
St. Louis	93	1,074,591	1,009,897	1,345,463
Minneapolis	74	677,804	405,656	660,024
Kansas City	81	963,129	838,906	1,704,083
Dallas	65	857,123	533,137	554,653
San Francisco	284	2,430,661	2,029,225	3,591,183
Total	2,023	\$34,990,474	\$33,956,686	\$36,235,872

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

United States Preliminary figures compiled by the United States Department of Commerce show increases in both exports and imports of merchandise in October compared with September, and with October last year. Exports during October increased 31.6 per cent over September, and were 13.6 per cent greater than in October last year, and imports increased 11.7 per cent over September, and were 0.4 per cent greater than a year ago. Preliminary figures, with comparisons, are shown in the table.

	1928	1927
Exports:		
October	\$ 555,000,000	\$ 488,675,000
September	421,748,000	425,267,000
10 months ending with October	4,113,592,000	3,996,795,000
Imports:		
October	\$ 357,000,000	\$ 355,738,000
September	319,561,000	342,154,000
10 months ending with October	3,427,069,000	3,509,240,000

New Orleans The value of merchandise imported into United States during August, the latest month for which detailed figures are available, through the port of New Orleans was \$21,277,697 compared with \$15,465,154 for July, and with \$19,632,179 for August last year. Principal commodities showing increases over August 1927 are coffee, bananas, crude petroleum and gasoline. Sugar, jute burlaps and other items show decreases.

Merchandise to the value of \$24,694,657 was exported through the port of New Orleans during August, compared with \$25,032,711 in July, and with \$26,522,037 in August 1927. Increases over August last year were shown in the outward movement of tobacco, long staple cotton, southern pine boards, oak boards, gasoline and illuminating oil, but some of the other large items show decreases compared with that month.

GRAIN EXPORTS—NEW ORLEANS

Grain exports through New Orleans during October 1928 were greater than in October last year due to a somewhat larger volume of wheat exported and to the movement of barley. For the season, July 1 to October 31, declines are shown in exports of wheat, corn, oats and rye, but the total grain exports show an increase over the same period last season because of the export movement of barley. Figures for the month, and for the season to date, are shown in the table.

	Oct. 1928	Oct. 1927	Season July 1 to October 31, 1928	1927
Wheat, bu.	1,761,717	1,472,708	3,613,822	4,529,354
Corn, bu.	123,251	167,203	608,146	859,591
Oats, bu.	27,540	77,979	167,674	362,847
Barley, bu.	956,200		1,597,866	
Rye, bu.	160,000	180,000	215,714	222,857
Total, bu.	3,028,708	1,897,890	6,203,222	5,974,649

BUILDING

The total value of buildings for which permits were issued during October in twenty regularly reporting cities

of the sixth district was \$8,694,161, an increase of 1.5 per cent over the total for September, but 4.5 per cent smaller than for October a year ago. The index number for October is 77.3, compared with 76.1 for September, and with 80.9 for October 1927. Seven cities reported increases over October last year, the others reporting decreases. Total permits issued at these twenty reporting cities of the sixth district during the ten months of 1928 have amounted to \$89,972,729, smaller by 10.1 per cent than the total of \$100,085,165 for the corresponding period of last year.

Contracts awarded in the sixth district during October according to statistics compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, totaled \$36,096,833, an increase of 38.9 per cent over the total of awards in September, and 38.7 per cent greater than for October 1927. In October 28.3 per cent of the total was for residential purposes. For the ten months of 1928 contract awards in this district have totaled \$287,921,000, smaller by 9.1 per cent than the total of \$316,806,000 for the same period last year.

In the table are shown building permits for reporting cities of the sixth district.

	October Number	1928 Value	October Number	1927 Value	Percentage change in value
Alabama					
Anniston	23	\$ 64,450	21	\$ 74,700	- 13.7
Birmingham ..	592	1,200,442	597	2,227,515	- 46.1
Mobile	100	202,432	123	133,850	+ 51.2
Montgomery ...	229	137,250	194	109,422	+ 25.4
Florida					
Jacksonville	381	532,086	446	1,001,419	- 46.9
Miami	290	147,466	334	282,068	- 47.7
Orlando	114	78,150	106	162,071	- 51.8
Pensacola	117	67,821	31	233,140	- 70.9
Tampa	330	281,288	348	401,415	- 29.9
*Lakeland	14	7,150	28	11,725	- 39.0
*Miami Beach ...	47	188,215	39	286,125	- 34.2
Georgia					
Atlanta	398	1,756,028	371	833,139	+ 110.8
Augusta	869	78,774	310	112,098	- 29.7
Columbus	55	97,883	57	48,655	+ 101.2
Macon	182	109,180	189	208,681	- 46.4
Savannah	60	216,255	65	403,347	- 46.4
Louisiana					
New Orleans ...	227	1,740,853	231	1,284,831	+ 35.5
Alexandria	83	65,936	100	67,917	- 2.9
Tennessee					
Chattanooga ...	369	520,268	318	391,234	+ 33.0
Johnson City ...	14	17,375	24	52,335	- 66.8
Knoxville	251	1,105,694	215	260,544	+ 324.4
Nashville	262	274,530	343	523,074	- 47.5
Total 20 Cities ..	4946	8,694,161	4490	9,104,305	- 4.5
Index No.		77.3		80.9	

*Not included in totals or index numbers.

L U M B E R

Preliminary figures for the month of October reported to the Southern Pine Association up to the middle of November by 110 subscribing mills indicate that the volume of orders booked during October fell below shipments for the month, but continued to exceed production, and were also greater than the three-year average production of the reporting mills. Stocks on hand continued somewhat below the three-year relative stocks of the reporting mills. Orders booked during October by these 110 reporting mills were 3.5 per cent greater than their production; in September orders booked by mills reporting for that month exceeded their output by 11.8 per cent, while in October last year orders were slightly smaller in volume than the month's production. Shipments by reporting mills during October were 5.6 per cent greater than orders, and exceeded production of these mills by 9.3 per cent. October production was 2.3 per cent less than the computed three-year average production of the reporting mills, and stocks on hand at the end of October were 12.7 per cent less than the three-year relative stocks of these mills. Unfilled orders on hand at the end of October amounted to 77.2 per cent of a month's production at the rate which prevailed in October. The continued excess of orders and shipments over production from month to month has, according to press reports, resulted in a consequent decline in mill stocks. Weekly reports have recently indicated some seasonal reduction in the volume of business booked with the approach of colder weather which will prevent outdoor construction work in the north. Preliminary figures for October, with comparisons, are shown in the table.

(Feet)	Oct. 1928 110 mills	Sept. 1928 111 mills	Oct. 1927 114 mills
Orders	298,379,790	287,794,854	279,754,741
Shipments	315,210,725	281,338,794	286,729,108
Production	288,420,968	257,512,160	283,206,945
3-Year Average Production ..	295,063,305	290,743,786	303,263,656
Stocks, end of month	648,215,968	661,794,825	784,091.8
3-Year Relative Stocks	742,762,858	731,889,332	808,725,240
Unfilled orders end of month ..	222,657,050	233,855,154	207,449,896

T E X T I L E S

Cotton Consumption Statistics compiled by the United States Census Bureau indicate an increase of nearly 26 per cent in the consumption of cotton during October as compared with September. The index number of cotton consumption compiled by this bank and based upon the monthly average for the three-year period 1923-25 inclusive, rose from 96.8 for September to 121.7 for October. Cotton consumed by mills in the United States during October amounted to 618,788 bales, compared with 492,221 bales in September, and with 613,520 bales in October last year. Stocks of cotton, both those in consuming establishments and those in public storage and at compresses, increased seasonally in October, but were somewhat smaller than a year ago. Exports of cotton in October increased 52.3 per cent over those in September, and were 11.5 per cent greater than exports in October 1927. The number of cotton spindles active in October increased 2,087,996, or 7.4 per cent, compared with the number active in September, but was smaller by 2,220,114, or 6.8 per cent, than for October a year ago.

	United States (Bales)		
	Oct. 1928	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Cotton Consumed:			
Lint	618,788	492,221	613,520
Linters	76,093	68,562	75,330
Stocks in Consuming Establishm'ts:			
Lint	1,194,861	719,981	1,323,703
Linters	109,047	112,314	144,319
Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses:			
Lint	4,635,981	2,645,977	5,419,193
Linters	45,933	40,018	46,67
Exports	1,240,702	814,569	1,118,0
Imports	27,840	18,508	19,235
Active Spindles	30,315,086	28,227,090	32,535,200
	Cotton Growing States (Bales)		
	Oct. 1928	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Cotton Consumed	474,267	381,025	449,040
Stocks in Cons'ng Establishm'ts ..	905,910	409,143	971,809
Stocks in Public Storage and at Compresses	4,554,750	2,556,264	5,146,462
Active Spindles	17,827,738	17,713,716	17,770,442

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 28¾ million yards of cotton cloth, an output 17.4 per cent greater than was produced by the same mills in September, and 16.0 per cent greater than their production in October last year. The volume of orders booked during October was not so large as in September, and stocks on hand declined, but shipments increased 7.6 per cent and increases over September were also shown in unfilled orders and the number of workers. Compared with October last year, increases are shown in all of the items reported by these cotton cloth mills, as shown in the table.

	October 1928 Sept. 1928	compared with: Oct. 1927
Production	+17.4	+ 16.0
Shipments	+ 7.6	+ 24.7
Orders booked	-20.2	+102.5
Unfilled orders	+14.7	+ 30.6
Stocks on hand	- 4.5	+ 7.5
Number on payroll	+ 1.8	+ 4.7

Cotton Yarn October production reported confidentially by mills in the sixth district manufacturing cotton yarn totaled more than 7½ million pounds, an increase of 25.0 per cent over their output in September and 13.9 per cent greater than their production in October a year ago. October orders were not equal to the large volume reported for September, but shipments increased 13.2 per cent and unfilled orders increased 16.3 per cent over September, and the number of workers increased 3.1 per cent. Stocks on hand at the end of the month declined in comparison with the preceding month, and with

the corresponding month last year. All other reported items show increases over October 1927.

	October 1928 compared with:	
	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Production	+25.0	+ 13.9
Shipments	+13.2	+ 23.5
Orders booked	+18.1	+ 40.2
Unfilled orders	+16.3	+ 11.8
Stocks on hand	- 4.6	- 2.9
Number on payroll	+ 3.1	+ 5.3

	Cotton Seed and Cotton Seed Products			
	(1) Sixth District		United States	
	Aug 1 to Oct. 31	Oct. 31	Aug. 1 to Oct. 31	Oct. 31
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cotton Seed, Tons:				
Received at mills.....	767,859	880,304	2,558,312	2,573,207
Crushed	425,559	556,953	1,397,709	1,608,586
On hand	347,003	349,815	1,182,175	1,054,405
Production:				
Crude Oil, lbs.....	136,171,799	178,028,914	427,829,833	494,084,111
Cake and Meal, tons ..	180,948	241,618	625,633	716,977
Hulls, tons	121,111	160,383	384,053	458,111
Linters, bales	98,901	94,169	282,776	284,050
Stocks:			(2)	(2)
Crude Oil, lbs.....	21,837,481	25,158,930	80,308,919	93,489,837
Cake and Meal, tons ..	37,930	63,994	124,196	179,458
Hulls, tons	29,957	51,974	122,596	248,222
Linters, bales	48,593	42,434	147,408	138,584

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

COAL

October production of bituminous coal, according to statistics compiled by the United States Bureau of Mines, amounted to 50,267,000 tons, 21.9 per cent greater than the total of 41,301,000 tons mined in September, and 14.9 per cent greater than the total of 43,827,000 tons for October a year ago. The daily average production for the 27 working days in October was 1,862,000 tons per day, compared with 1,693,000 tons per day for the 24.4 working days in September, and with 1,686,000 tons per day for the 26 working days in October last year. Weekly production figures, shown in the table below, indicate that production in Alabama is at a lower level than at the same time last year, while current output in Tennessee continues greater than a year ago. Total production of bituminous coal in the United States during the present calendar year to November 3, approximately 261 working days, amounts to 408,533,000 net tons, compared with 443,038,000 net tons produced during the corresponding period last year. Production figures are shown in the table for each week since the beginning of October, with similar figures for corresponding weeks last year.

Week Ended	(000 Omitted)					
	United States		Alabama		Tennessee	
	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927
October 6	11,039	10,286	330	376	116	95
October 13	11,274	10,550	314	380	118	90
October 20	10,832	10,285	312	361	113	96
October 27	11,248	10,019	333	351	113	90
November 3	11,140	9,027	329	330	108	85
November 10	10,543	9,454				

IRON

Statistics compiled and published by the Iron Age indicate material increases in total production and daily average output of iron in October compared with the preceding month, and with the corresponding month a year ago. Alabama production also increased over September, but was slightly smaller than in October last year.

Production of pig iron in the United States during October totaled 3,373,806 tons, an increase of 10.2 per cent over September output, and 21.2 per cent greater than in October 1927. The index number, based upon monthly average production for 1923-1925, was 112.9, compared with 102.5 for September, and with 93.2 for October last year. The daily average production in October was 108,832 tons, 6.6 per cent greater than the daily average for September, and 21.2 per cent greater than for October last year. During October there were eleven furnaces blown out, and eleven blown out or banked, making no net change for the month. On November 1 there were 197 furnaces active, compared with 172 active at the same time a year ago.

Statistics for Alabama indicate the production during October of 222,142 tons, an increase of 12.6 per cent over the 197,367 tons produced in September, but 1.1 per cent

smaller than the output in October last year, which amounted to 224,533 tons. Daily average production in Alabama was 8.9 per cent greater in October than in September. There were two furnaces blown out in Alabama during October, leaving 17 active on November 1, compared with 18 active at the same time last year. Press reports indicate that the iron market in the Birmingham district remains quiet, with nearly all melters covered for the balance of the year.

Unfilled Orders—U. S. Steel Corporation

Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation increased in October for the third month in succession. The total on October 31 was 3,751,030 tons compared with 3,698,368 tons, and with 3,341,000 tons on October 31, 1927.

NAVAL STORES

Receipts of both turpentine and rosin at the three principal markets of the district declined slightly in October, compared with September, and stocks of turpentine increased somewhat but supplies of rosin decreased. October receipts of turpentine were 1.1 per cent smaller than those in September, and 13.3 per cent smaller than in October last year, while receipts of rosin declined 0.7 per cent in October compared with September, and were 12.7 per cent smaller than in October a year ago. Stocks of turpentine at the end of October were 8.0 per cent greater than a month earlier, and 1.2 per cent greater than a year ago, while stocks of rosin declined 6.0 per cent compared with September, and were 2.4 per cent smaller than at the same time last year. Receipts of both commodities for the season, April 1 to November 1, were smaller than for the same period of the preceding season, but were larger than for corresponding periods of other recent years. Press reports indicate that approximately seventy-five per cent of the season's crop has been marketed, and estimate that production this season is about 17½ per cent less than that of last year. Prices for both commodities continued to fluctuate within a narrow range during October and early November, but on Friday, November 9, the price of turpentine increased from 50-51¼ cents, to 55 cents, and during the following week fluctuated between 56¼ and 54¼ cents, with strength also being exhibited in the price of rosins. Press reports indicate that receipts for the first half of November have been smaller by one-fourth than during the same period last year.

	Oct. 1928	Sept. 1928	Oct. 1927
Receipts—Turpentine			
Savannah	16,993	16,709	19,522
Jacksonville	12,058	12,040	13,702
Pensacola	4,873	5,563	5,891
Total	33,924	34,312	39,115
Receipts—Rosin			
Savannah	58,189	56,531	68,246
Jacksonville	42,127	44,455	49,844
Pensacola	14,919	15,043	13,969
Total	115,235	116,029	132,059
Stocks—Turpentine			
Savannah	23,658	24,818	29,942
Jacksonville	32,054	26,381	37,214
Pensacola	23,797	22,296	13,317
Total	79,509	73,595	80,473
Stocks—Rosin			
Savannah	108,132	124,795	117,804
Jacksonville	86,896	81,063	91,623
Pensacola	21,889	24,814	12,740
Total	216,917	230,672	222,167

(Continued from first page)

during the period and loans on securities showed further growth, reflecting a marked increase in the volume of loans to brokers and dealers in securities. Investments showed further decline. During the four weeks ending November 21 there was little change in the volume of reserve bank credit in use. Reserve bank holdings of acceptances increased further and discounts for member banks declined. During the last week of October and the first three weeks of November conditions in the money market were somewhat easier; the rate on four to six months commercial paper declined from a level of 5½ per cent to a range of from 5¼ to 5½ per cent, and rates on call and time loans in the market also declined slightly.

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.)	August 1928	Sept. 1928	October 1928	August 1927	Sept. 1927	October 1927
Atlanta	129.7	138.2	169.6	109.1	127.0	173.3
Birmingham	92.7	100.2	131.3	94.9	102.6	129.2
Chattanooga	66.9	85.6	111.8	73.9	84.9	123.8
Nashville	97.6	101.2	124.4	92.4	87.4	118.5
New Orleans	72.9	84.3	110.2	75.1	88.9	115.1
Other Cities	72.3	89.7	112.9	78.5	92.7	122.1
DISTRICT	86.0	98.0	125.6	86.0	97.0	128.0
RETAIL TRADE U. S. (1)						
Department Stores	84.7	106.5	123.1	89.0	100.0	119.0
Mail Order Houses	126.8	142.6	183.5	105.0	118.0	147.0
Chain Stores:						
Grocery	204.5	199.6	228.1	170.0	171.0	190.0
5 & 10 Cent	133.5	143.7	163.4	130.0	128.0	153.0
Drug	169.1	164.2	169.4	140.0	137.0	151.0
Cigar	104.4	105.0	107.1	106.0	106.0	111.0
Shoe	108.8	130.4	126.5	101.0	108.0	121.0
Wearing Apparel	196.7	246.4	289.1	165.0	198.0	250.0
Candy	122.6	122.4	134.1	110.0	119.0	124.0
WHOLESALE TRADE 6th DISTRICT						
Groceries	87.3	88.2	93.8	87.0	94.1	88.8
Dry Goods	103.5	111.4	105.4	143.1	157.4	129.0
Hardware	90.9	95.0	107.5	96.1	104.9	112.3
Furniture	108.4	116.5	114.8	101.3	118.1	120.0
Electrical Supplies	88.5	88.4	101.0	78.0	86.1	95.9
Shoes	104.6	106.4	113.3	121.5	131.7	133.5
Stationery	108.0	87.1	105.4	97.6	157.6	131.7
Drugs	94.0	96.3	119.5	114.9	125.6	119.3
TOTAL	115.2	109.9	102.9	99.7	109.9	106.7
WHOLESALE PRICES U. S. (2)						
Farm products	107.0	108.8	103.5	102.2	105.9	105.0
Foods	104.1	106.9	102.3	94.2	96.5	100.0
Hides and leather products	121.0	120.7	117.5	111.7	112.5	113.0
Textile products	96.3	95.6	96.1	96.2	98.5	98.4
Fuel and lighting	84.6	85.1	84.9	84.1	84.2	83.8
Metals and Metal products	100.4	100.5	101.0	98.0	97.6	97.1
Building materials	94.6	94.7	95.0	92.9	92.1	91.6
Chemicals and drugs	94.7	95.1	95.6	95.4	96.4	97.1
Housefurnishing goods	97.2	97.2	96.5	98.6	98.6	98.5
Miscellaneous	79.3	79.7	80.3	89.9	89.2	88.3
ALL COMMODITIES	98.9	100.1	97.8	95.2	96.5	97.0
BUILDING PERMITS 6th DISTRICT						
Atlanta	54.2	135.6	113.5	65.8	80.0	53.9
Birmingham	92.4	74.2	81.0	87.8	156.6	150.3
Jacksonville	72.3	70.5	64.7	139.0	146.8	121.7
Nashville	82.0	48.3	43.3	60.9	135.2	82.5
New Orleans	79.1	164.3	135.2	148.2	94.7	99.8
Other Cities	70.4	43.2	58.2	60.9	77.5	59.0
DISTRICT (20 Cities)	72.8	76.1	77.3	80.8	98.6	80.9
CONTRACTS AWARDED 6th DISTRICT	81.3	74.0	102.8	80.3	88.1	74.1
COTTON CONSUMED:						
United States	103.6	96.8	121.7	124.6	123.4	120.6
Cotton-Growing States	115.6	109.1		132.9	132.3	128.5
All Other States	77.3	70.0		106.5	103.9	103.1
Exports	42.2	132.5	201.9	55.4	102.7	183.3
PIG IRON PRODUCTION:						
United States	105.0	102.5	112.9	98.7	92.9	93.2
Alabama	81.3	85.0	95.7	91.4	89.3	96.7
UNFILLED ORDERS—U. S. STEEL CORPORATION	75.9	77.5	78.6	66.9	65.9	70.0

(1) Compiled by Federal Reserve Board.

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