MONTHLY REVIEW

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

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

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NATIONAL SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS

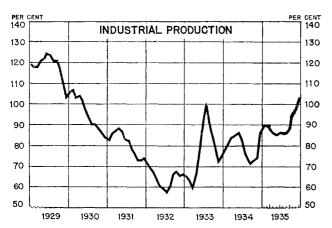
Prepared by the Board of Governors of the Federal **Reserve System**

Industrial production and employment showed a further increase in December, when allowance is made for the usual seasonal changes, and distribution of commodities to consumers was in increased volume.

Production The Board's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production, which and Employment takes account of the considerable decline that usually occurs in December

advanced from 98 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in November to 103 per cent in December, the highest level reached by this index since the spring of 1930. As in other months during the last half of 1935, the rise in the index was due in large part to increases in output of durable manufactures, particularly iron and steel and automobiles. During the first half of January production of steel and automobiles increased somewhat, following declines in the holiday period. Output at mines was also larger in December than in November. Activity at cotton and silk textile mills declined less than is usual in December, while at woolen mills there was a more than seasonal decrease in operation. Output at shoe factories increased.

Factory employment showed little change between ... the middle of November and the middle of December, •

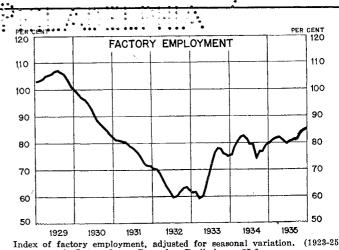


Index number of industrial production, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average=100.) Latest figure December Preliminary 103.

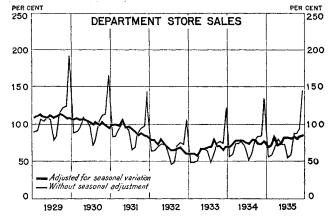
when a slight decline is customary. The number employed continued to increase at steel mills, automobile factories, foundries, and machine shops, and at railroad car building plants. There was also an increase in employment at shoe factories. Seasonal declines were reported by many other important industries. Factory payrolls were larger in the middle of December than a month earlier. The value of construction contracts awarded increased sharply in December, according to figures of the F. W. Dodge Corporation, although a decline is usual in that month. There was a further substantial growth in the volume of awards for publicly-financed projects and residential building also increased.

Distribution Sales at department stores and variety stores, as well as sales by chain stores and mail order houses serving rural areas, showed larger increases than are usual in December. Freight-car loadings decreased by less than the usual seasonal amount in December, and the Board's adjusted index increased from 66 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in November to 71 per cent continuing the advance begun last August.

Commodity The general level of wholesale prices Prices showed little change during December. In the first three weeks of January there was some decline in the general index, reflecting in part lower prices for cotton gray goods, flour, pork and slik. Prices of hogs, rubber, and petroleum increased. ·



average=100.) Latest figure December Preliminary 85.6.



Indexes of daily average value of sales (1923-1925=100.) Latest figure December (Preliminary): Adjusted 84, Unadjusted 145.

Bank Excess reserves of member banks, which declined by \$600,000,000 in the third week of December increased by \$220,000,000 due

of December, increased by \$320,000,000 during the following five weeks, reflecting the usual seasonal return flow of currency from circulation, a decline in Treasury balances with the Federal Reserve banks and a small increase in monetary gold stock. On January 22 excess reserves totaled \$3,030,-000,000 as compared with the peak of \$3,300,000,000 on December 11, 1935.

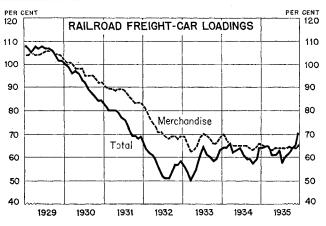
Changes in the condition of reporting member banks in leading cities between December 18 and January 15 reflected largely the influences of seasonal factors.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Sixth District statistics for the year 1935 indicate further improvement in trade at both retail and wholesale, in most lines of industrial activity, and increases in deposits and investment holdings by reporting member banks in leading cities over other recent years. Coal production in Alabama declined, however, and loans at reporting member banks were smaller, and farm value of 64 principal crops was estimated by the Department of Agriculture at \$697,440,000, a decrease of 4-2 per cent com-

Department store sales in the District increased in December more than usual and were 7.8 per ent greater than in December, 1964. December sales were the highest for that month since 1929, and total sales in 1935 were the largest since 1930. December sales by wholesale firms declined less than usual from November, and were 11.7 per cent larger than in December, 1934, and for the year were 4.2 per cent larger than in the year 1934 and at the highest level since 1930. Debits to individual accounts increased 13.9 per cent from November to December, were 8.3 per cent larger than in December a year ago, and for the year were the largest since 1931.

Loans to customers at 22 reporting member banks in leading cities decreased 4.7 millions between December 11 and January 15, and were 27.6 millions less than a year earlier. Investment holdings, however, increased 8.2 millions since December 11 and



Indexes of daily average number of cars loaded, adjusted for seasonal variation (1923-1925=100.) Latest figures December Total 71, Merchandise, LCL, 66.

were 59.7 millions greater than a year ago. Adjusted demand deposits declined 10.7 millions from December 11 to January 15, but were 57.4 millions greater than a year earlier. Principal changes in the weekly statement of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta since December 11 show increases in member bank reserves, in total reserves and total deposits and a small decline in note circulation, and all of these items were substantially larger than a year ago.

Employment statistics compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics show increases in number of workers and payrolls from July through November, and increases over November of other recent years. The value of building permits issued at twenty reporting cities declined somewhat in December, but was 96.4 per cent larger than in December a year ago, and for the year the total increased 71.8 per cent over 1934 and was the largest since 1930. Construction contracts awarded in the District as a whole increased slightly over November and were more than three times the total for December a year ago, and for the year were 13.1 per cent greater than in 1934 and at the highest level since 1931. Activity at cotton mills and at cotton seed oil mills, declined somewhat from November to December but continued well above the corresponding period a year earlier. Consumption of cotton by mills in this District during 1935 was 8.9 per cent larger .. than in 1934, and except for 1933 was the largest since 1929. Coal mining in Alabama was about 15 per cent less than in 1934, and in Tennessee about the same as in that year. Pig iron production in

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA (In Thousands of dollars)									
		Jan. 15 1936	_	Dec. 11 1935		Jan. 16 1935			
Bills Discounted: Secured by Govt. Obligations All Others	\$	75 13 88 165 920 94,209 95,381 187,312 114,280 123,887 152,479 67.8% 493	\$	50 48 98 168 942 94,209 95,417 184,156 112,032 118,717 152,931 67.8% 545	\$	55 108 163 258 904 4,233 95,558 131,867 82,166 90,546 128,609 60,2% 719			

Alabama reached in December the highest level for any month since June, 1931, and for the year was the largest since 1931.

FINANCE

There were minor changes in the items Reserve Bank composing the total volume of Federal Reserve Bank credit outstanding at the Fed-Credit eral Reserve Bank of Atlanta between De-

cember 11 and January 15, and total bills and securities held at that time continued at about the level of the past year and a half. Discounts and holdings of purchased bills declined slightly since December 11 and were less than a year ago, holdings of United States securities were the same on January 15 as five weeks earlier but somewhat less than a year ago, and industrial advances also declined since December 11 but were larger than at that time last year. Industrial advances outstanding at this bank rose from August, 1934, to April 24, 1935, but have since that time declined somewhat.

Principal changes in the weekly statement of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta indicate increases of 2.2 millions in member bank reserve deposits, 5.2 millions in total deposits, and 3.2 millions in total reserves, between December 11 and January 15. Compared with the corresponding Wednesday a year ago, member bank reserve deposits on January 15 were 32.1 millions larger, and total deposits show an increase of 33.3 millions, and total reserves an increase of 55.4 millions.

Federal Reserve notes of this bank's issue in actual circulation rose during the last five months of 1935, and on December 24 amounted to 160.5 millions, the largest total for any Wednesday since the Banking holiday. During the three following weeks, however, outstanding circulation declined 8 millions, but on January 15 it was still 23.9 millions greater than a year earlier.

Principal items in the weekly statement are compared in an accompanying table.

CONDITION OF 22 MEMB	ER BANKS		ED CI	ties .
~~ =	Jan. 15 1936	Dec. 11 1935		Jan. 16 1935
Loans and Investments—total. \$ Loans—total	518,235 224,559 53,929 5,703 48,226 21,010 5,187 539 143,894	\$ 514,708 229,224 54,053 6,123 47,796 21,597 5,107 134 148,467	- :	486,103 252,153 63,928 7,552 54,544 19,566 5,229 1,832 158,300
Investments—Total U. S. Govt. direct obligations. Obligations guaranteed by U.S. Other Securities	293,676 179,776 37,365 76,535	285,484 168,580 42,316 74,588		233,950 148,916 19,344 65,690
Reserve with F. R. Bank Cash in Vault Balances with domestic hanks Demand Depositsadjusted Time Deposits Inter-bank deposits: Domestic. Foreign Borrowings	63,317 9,016 152,970 292,848 169,665 197,328 1,243	62,671 9,983 150,171 303,523 170,648 193,812 1,464 50	1	41,694 8,421 118,320 235,484 167,372 136,347 773 53

Note: The item "Demand deposits—adjusted" represents the total amount of demand deposits standing to the credit of individuals, partnerships, corpora-tions, associations, States, counties, municipalities, etc., minus the amount of cash items reported as on hand or in process of collection. The item "Time Deposits" differs from that previously published in that it formerly included a relatively small amount of time deposits of other banks, which are now included n "Inter-bank deposits".

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Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Member Total loans and investments at 22 weekly Bank reporting member banks in leading cities Credit of the District increased 3.5 millions be-

tween December 11 and January 15, and were 32.1 millions greater than a year ago. The increase over both comparative reporting dates was due to larger investments. Loans declined 4.7 millions since December 11, and were 27.6 millions less than a year ago, and investments, principally holdings of direct obligations of the Government, rose 8.2 millions from December 11 to January 15, and were 59.7 millions greater than on January 16, 1935. Of this increase over a year ago, direct obligations of the Government account for 30.9 millions, obligations guaranteed by the Government 18 millions, and Other Securities 10.8 millions.

Reserves maintained by these banks increased somewhat over those on December 11 and were 21.6 millions greater than a year ago. There was a decline of 10.7 millions in demand deposits-adjusted (see note) between December 11 and January 15, but an increase of 57.4 millions over the same Wednesday a year ago, and time deposits also declined somewhat since December 11 but were larger than on the same report date last year. Balances maintained with, and for, correspondent banks increased between December 11 and January 15 and were substantially larger than on January 16, last year.

Savings deposits reported by 57 banks in the District at the end of December showed a further small gain over the month before, and averaged 9.5 per cent larger than a year earlier.

Total debits to individual accounts at banks in 26 cent from November to December, were 8.3 per cent

	NDIVIDUAL AC ousands of Dollars		
	December 1935	November 1935	December 1934
Alabama-4 Cities	\$ 126,249 \$	115,676 \$	116,912
Birmingham	72,609	64,803	64,147
Dothan	2,706	2,846	2,650
Mobile	29,754	27,156	27,651
Montgomery	21,180	20,871	22,464
Florida-4 Cities	145,207	112,012	122,000
Jacksonville	72,279	55,288	64,468
Miami	37.012	26,705	25,650
Pensacola	8,593	7,322	6,887
Татра	27,323	22,697	24,995
Georgia-10 Cities	269,090	231,517	248.343
Albany	3.845	3,654	3,932
Atlanta	179,120	149,397	163,458
Augusta	19,168	17,784	19,078
Brunswick	2,353	2,038	2,096
Columbus	11,907	11,247	10,336
Elberton	1,075	1,105	954
Macon	14,706	13,963	13,052
Newnan	1,760	2,109	1,679
Savannah	31,535	27,051	30,566
Valdosta	3,621	3,169	3,192
Louisiana-New Orleans	218,809	193,261	209,083
Mississippi—4 Cities	40,408	41,900	41.430
Hattiesburg	3,767	3,511	3,428
Jackson	21,486	22,893	24,041
Meridian	8,376	7,985	7,872
Vicksburg	6,779	7,511	6,089
Tennessee—3 Cities	139,008	130,158	129,010
Chattanooga	36,551	35,823	31,734
Knoxville	25,771	35,823 22,737	21,310
Nashville	76,686	71,598	75,966
Total-26 Cities	\$ 938,771 \$	824,524 \$	866,778

*Monthly totals are derived from weekly reports by prorating figures for thos week which do not fall entirely within a single calendar month.

greater than in December, 1934, and were at the highest level for any month since March, 1931. Total debits for the year 1935 were also the largest for any year since 1931. Comparisons of recent figures in detail are shown in accompanying tables.

AGRICULTURE

The December report of the United States Department of Agriculture states in part: "Prices received for this season's crops are about 13 per cent below those received for the short crops of last year (1934), but with heavier production the aggregate value of the crops produced of \$5,118,444,000 exceeds the value of last year's crops by \$339,000,000, or 7 per cent... The benefit payments received by farmers in 1935 were less than in 1934, but the income of farmers from production and benefit payments combined is expected to total \$8,110,000,000, an increase over last year of nearly 12 per cent."

The figures for the six states of this District indicate larger production of some of the principal crops than in 1934, exceptions being corn, potatoes and fruits, but the total farm value of 64 principal crops in these six states averaged 4.7 per cent less than in 1934, but 23.7 per cent greater than in 1933 and 87.5 per cent greater than in 1932. In the table are shown production and value totals by crops, for these six states combined, and total farm values of principal crops by states.

Sales of fertilizer tax tags in the six states of this District during December amounted to 69,416 tons, a slight increase over November and 29.6 per cent larger than in December a year earlier. For the five months, August through December, total sales in

	roduction in th Values in thous			
	Prod	uction	Va	lue
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cotton-Lint, bales	4,284	3,978		\$ 243,788
Cotton Seed, tons	1,904	1,767	60,111	61,378
Corn, bushels	207,668	208,873	145,627	171,518
Oats, bushels	11,688	11,064	6,785	7,525
Wheat, bushels	4,507	4,214	4,113	4,242
Tame Hay, tons	2,693	2,620	27,891	33,341
Soy Beans, bushels	2,224	1,905	3,689	3,908
Cowpeas, bushels	3,943	3,615	5,492	5,053
White Potatoes, bushels.	15,321	16,982	12,571	14,794
Sweet Potatoes, bushels.	33,900	36,080	23,840	28,418
Peanuts, lbs	1,064,655	918,970	32,549	28,657
Pecans, lbs	20,650	13,320	2,115	1,832
Tobacco, lbs	164,842	131,347	27,249	19,654
Apples, bushels	2,602	3,355	2,809	3,025
Peaches, bushels	8,129	10,071	7,094	7,950
Oranges, boxes	16,247	18,121	28,506	27,528
Grapefruit, boxes	10,500	15,200	12,075	11,801
Sugar Cane Syrup, gals.	22,809	20,907	9,001	9,202
Sugar Cane, tons	4,486	3,735	14,875	9,326
Sugar, tons	291	234		
Rice, bushels	16,808	15,957	10.589	13.085
Velvet Beans, tons	689	634	7.630	7,809
Sorghum, gals	5,678	7,873	2,733	3,546
TOTAL FARM			PAL CROPS	
	In Thousands	of Dollars		

	1935	1934	1933	1932
Alabama Florida	\$ 131,016 78,640	\$ 142,396 77,110	\$ 99,454 66,659	\$ 62,051 57,914
Georgia	157,353 92,500	156,663 87,519	128,588 68,821	67,039 54,711
Mississippi Tennessee	137,983 99,948	143,669 124,423	100,325	66,630 63,709
Total-Six States	\$ 697.440	\$ 731.780	\$ 563.979	\$ 372.054

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis these states have totaled 263,838 tons, an increase of 2.6 per cent over that period a year ago.

According to the January Crop Report of the United States Department of Agriculture, low temperatures in Florida during December apparently caused no injury to citrus fruits. Because of freeze damage a year ago, however, the crop is unevenly distributed and much below what the trees at this time would be capable of bearing. The forecasts of 16 million boxes of oranges and 10.5 million boxes of grapefruit from the bloom of 1935 are 9 per cent, and 31 per cent, respectively, less than production last year.

Cash receipts from the sale of principal farm products declined only slightly from October to November in this District, and were about 22 per cent larger than in November, 1934. This increase for November over a year ago resulted in a small gain in total receipts for the eleven months, January through November, over that part of 1934. The eleven month total is 32.7 per cent larger than in that part of 1933, and 50.6 per cent above the same period in 1932. In this District rental and benefit payments for 1935 through October were 13.9 per cent, and 56.5 per cent, respectively, greater than in that part of 1934 and 1933.

TRADE

Retail Daily average sales by 60 reporting department stores in the Sixth District increased further in 1935 to the highest level for any year since 1930, and December sales averaged higher than

CASH RECEIPTS FROM JanNov., it	M SALE (OF n T	PRINCII housands	PAL of I	FARM	PRO	DUCTS
	1935		1934		1933		1932
Alabama \$ Plorida Georgia Louisiana Mississippi Tennessee	84,036 78,427 104,620 74,418 101,453 84,112	\$	93,800 82,313 98,779 72,728 94,848 78,775	\$	57,377 58,628 82,092 55,211 80,573 63,386	\$	55,317 68,711 53,965 51,174 63,831 56,983
Total\$	527,066	\$	521,243	\$	397,267	\$	349,981
SUC	AR MOV			oun	ds		
	Rav		1935	N	ov. 1935		Dec. 1934
Receipts: New Orleans Savannah Meltings:	79 15		,418 ,569		92,624		,849,935 ,739,419
New Orleans Savannah Stocks:	18,	157	,750		41,697 39 ,724		,401,880 ,557,833
New Orleans Savannah	89, 16,	855 748			00,389 34,823		,916,072 ,222,913
	Refin	eđ S	ugar				
Shipments: New Orleans Savannah Stocks:					00,155 17,037		,991,496 ,816,939
New Orleans			,412 3 ,689		34,387 51,470	44 13	,571,096 ,598,360
Rice l	RICE Millers' As		OVEMEI ation Stat		5		
Receipts of Rough Rice* Season 1935–36 Season 1934–35		De	ecember 661,293 611,966		AugDec. 6,060, 4,575,	092	4.
Distribution of Milled Rice** Season 1935–36 Season 1934–35			538,112 714,423		3,565, 3,819,	796 625	
Stock December 31, 1935 December 31, 1934			Rough* ,396,985 931,324		Clean 739, 1,379,	321	

*Barrels of 162 lbs.; **Pockets of 100 lbs.

RETAIL TRADE IN THE SIXTH DISTRICT DURING DECEMBER 1935 Based on confidential reports from 60 department stores

		ison of N	• • • • • • • •			COMPARISON OF STOCKS					_	_
	Decemb wit Same month a year ago	b :	Year to date with same period last year	December 31 with: Same month a year ago	l, 1935 Previous Month	Decemi 1935	Stock T ber 1934	URNOVEI Jan. 1935	Dec. 1934	Cor Dec. 1935	Nov. 1935	Ratio Dec. 1934
Atlanta (6) Birmingham (6) Chattanooga (4) Jacksonville (3) Nashville (3) New Orleans (5). Other Cities (29) DISTRICT (60)	+ 8.4 + 15.5 + 3.6 + 12.5 + 2.2	+54.8 +56.3 +50.5 +87.5 +90.3 +58.1 +45.9 +51.0 +57.0	+ 6.2+ 2.7+ 6.7+ 6.0+11.7+ 5.4+ 6.5+ 4.2+ 5.9	+18.6+18.8+15.7-0.2+4.6+1.5-4.8+5.1+6.2	$\begin{array}{r} -29.7 \\ -17.2 \\ -17.1 \\ -17.7 \\ +8.5 \\ -19.9 \\ -18.1 \\ -17.4 \\ -18.5 \end{array}$.60 .46 .48 .38 .70 .45 .45 .52 .50 .52	.67 .50 .54 .37 .62 .44 .43 .45 .50	4.66 3.48 3.60 2.64 4.53 3.17 3.51 3.24 3.65	4.71 3.79 3.62 2.40 4.56 3.07 3.16 3.18 3.57	28.5 34.4 30.6 29.5 43.9 33.6 33.5	28.7 35.9 36.3 31.2 42.6 32.3 33.5	27.6 34.1 36.4 30.5 39.3 33.0 32.6

for that month since 1929. December sales increased 57 per cent over November and were 7.8 per cent greater than in December, 1934, and for the year averaged 5.9 per cent greater than in 1934. Increases over 1934 ranged from 2.7 per cent in Birmingham to 11.7 per cent at Miami. Stocks of merchandise reported at the end of December averaged 18.5 per cent smaller than a month earlier, but 6.2 per cent larger than a year ago. Stock turnover increased substantially over the month before, and for December and the year was slightly higher than a year earlier. The collection ratio for December was the same as for November, but slightly higher than for December, 1934. This ratio for November and December was the highest since March, and except for March of the past two years, was the highest since January, 1929. The December ratio for regular accounts was 37.0 per cent, and for installment accounts 17.6 per cent.

Percentage comparisons shown in the table are based upon figures reported in actual dollar amounts and make no allowance for changes in price levels. Index numbers on page 8 are based upon reports from a smaller number of firms whose figures have been reported over a long period of years.

Life December sales of life insurance in this Insurance District increased 22.0 per cent over November and were the largest since January, but were 7.7 per cent less than in December, 1934, and for the year were 1.5 per cent less than in 1934, but exceeded those in 1933 or 1932. Figures compared in the table are from those compiled by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau.

	J	(In T December 1935	usands o lovembe 1935	ollars) Decembe 1934	er	January 1935	-De	e. Incl. 1934
Alabama Florida Georgia Louisiana. Mississippi Tennessee	\$	4,098 4,954 7,367 5,067 2,749 6,055	\$ 3,334 3,863 6,220 4,173 2,152 5,094	\$ 5,007 4,680 7,947 5,699 3,122 6,369	\$	45,171 54,797 77,997 56,894 27,021 66,506	\$	45,900 54,041 81,059 54,269 29,476 68,701
Total United States	\$	30,290 575,600	24,836 94,705	32,824 89,845	\$ \$6	328,386 ,181,255	\$ \$6	333,446 ,182,765

Wholesale Wholesale trade in the Sixth District declined 3.9 per cent from November to December, but averaged 11.7 per cent greater than a year ago, according to reports from 84 firms in seven lines of trade. The decline over the month was less than half that at the same time last year. For the year, total sales by these firms averaged 4.2 per cent larger than in 1934, and were the largest since 1930. The December index is the highest for that month since 1929. Reported figures are compared in the table.

WHOLESALE TRADE IN DECEMBER	1935	
Sixth Federal Reserve District*		Percentage

	Number of Firms	Dec. 19 Nov. 1935	935 with: Dec. 1934	Comparisons JanDec. 1935 with same period last year
All Lines Combined:		• •		
Sales	84	- 3.9	+11.7	+ 4.2
Stocks	29	- 6.9	+12.6	• • • • • •
Groceries:	19	0.4	1.0	
Sales.		0.4	- 1.9	+1.5
Jacksonville New Orleans	3	-4.5 +7.5	-10.6	- 9.7
New Orleans	4	+ 7.3 - 2.3	- 1.3	+ 0.9
Vicksburg	Š	-2.3 -6.1	+ 9.2	+ 4.0
Other Cities	4 3 9 3	-12.0	-1.5 -7.4	+ 6.9
Stocks Dry Goods:	3		- 7.4	•••••
Sales	14	-21.3	+15.7	- 8.7
Nashville	3	-21.3	+ 2.2	-7.6
Other Cities	11	-21.2	+19.4	- 7.8 - 9.0
Stocks	17	-19.7	$\frac{19.7}{40.8}$	
Hardware:	'	-19.7	7 0.0	•••••
Sales	25	- 4.6	+19.9	+ 7.9
Nashville	3	- 0.0	113.7	∓ ú.ĭ
New Orleans	5	+3.9	+49.4	+ 6.3
Other Cities	17	- 9.7	+ 8.5	+ 8.3
Stocks	Ϊģ	- 4.2	+ 7.4	+ 0.5
Furniture:	-		1	
Sales	9	+ 2.1	+14.5	+9.5
Atlanta	4	- 7.6	+11.9	+14.8
Other Cities	5	+ 6.4	+15.6	+ 7.7
Stocks	6	+ 5.7	+19.4	
Electrical Supplies:		•	1	
Sales	5	+16.1	+35.6	+22.8
New Orleans	3	+31.5	+29.7	+19.2
Stocks	3	- 0.4	+40.4	
Drugs:			-	
Sales	7	+ 1.2	+ 5.3	+ 6.1
Stationery:				
Sales	3	+14.2	+21.4	+ 5.0

	CTION RATIO December 1935	November 1935	December 1934	
Groceries	64.2	66.0	68.6	
Dry Goods	46.5	39.6	43.5	
Hardware	41.7	41.7	40.8	
Furniture	37.8	36.1	31.4	
Electrical Supplies	69.4	64.6	66.5	
Total	48.1	45.6	48.4	

* Based on confidential reports from 84 firms.
** The collection ratio is the percentage of accounts and notes receivable outstanding at the beginning of the month which were collected during the month.

INDUSTRY

The total value of buildings for the construction of which permits were issued during December at 20 reporting cities in the Sixth District declined further to the smaller total since April, but was 96.4 per cent larger than a year ago and the largest December total since 1928. For the year 1935, total permits issued at these 20 cities have amounted to

		BUILDING PERMITS—December Number Value							
	1935	1934	1935	1934	Percentage Change in Value				
Alabama									
Anniston	32	16	\$ 19,638	\$ 9.885	+ 98.7				
Birmingham	239	364	145,625	105,252	+ 38.4				
Mobile	26	44	19,686	26,462	- 25.6				
Montgomery	72	125	41,902	42,256	0.8				
Florida									
Jacksonville	413	368	303,737	122,926	+147.1				
Miami	976	443	682,567	309,962	+120.2				
Miami Beach	165	115	372,204	501,470	- 25.8				
Orlando	53	50	47,242	31,111	+ 51.8				
Татра	153	164	38,605	22,694	+ 70.1				
1 ampa	155	104	38,003	22,094	+ 70.1				
Georgia									
Atlanta	121	189	80,333	72,755	+ 10.4				
Augusta	13	18	50,848	19,634	+159.0				
Columbus	47	33	35,254	7.776	+353.4				
Macon	133	38	9,781	14,910	- 34.4				
Savannah	12	21	10,296	27,667	- 62.8				
Louisiana									
New Orleans	55	54	272 000	44 020	1 517 0				
Alexandria	33	51	272,090	44,039	+517.8				
Alexandria	34	51	10,457	10,583	- 1.2				
Tennessee									
Chattanooga	217	145	80,701	21,793	+270.3				
Johnson City	2	3	575	14,700	96.1				
Knoxville	38	16	59,082	17,202	+243.5				
Nashville	158	46	1,008,785	251.352	+301.3				
			1,000,700	201,002	1.501.5				
- Total	2,959	2,303	3,289,408	1,674,429	+ 96.4				

\$39,891,596, larger by 71.8 per cent than the total for 1934, nearly three times the total for 1933, more than twice the total for 1932, and 35.7 per cent larger than the total for 1931. Fifteen of these reporting cities had larger totals for 1935 than for 1934. Comparisons for the month are shown in the table.

The total value of building and construction contracts awarded in the Sixth District during 1935, according to statistics compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation and subdivided into district totals by the Division of Research and Statistics of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, amounted to \$161,903,262, a gain of 13.1 per cent over 1934, and the largest annual total since 1931. Residential contracts were approximately twice as large as in 1934, and the largest since 1930. State totals for December ranged from 100.6 per cent for Mississippi to 720.1 per cent for Tennessee, larger than a year ago, and for the year, contracts increased 27 per cent in Georgia, 28.7 per cent in Florida and 34.3 per cent in Tennessee, and declined 3.5 per cent in Mississippi, 10.7 per cent in Louisiana and 13.4 per cent in Alabama. In the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains, December awards were 32.7 per cent larger than in November, and 185 per cent greater than a year earlier, and for the year total awards amounted to \$1,844,544,900, a gain of 19.5 per cent over the 1934 total. Residential contracts in these 37 states increased 92.4 per cent over 1934, non-residential awards 24.4 per cent, while those for public works and utilities declined 8.1 per cent.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED F. W. Dodge Corporation				
F. (Nov. 1935	Dec. 1934 \$5,709,498 1,305,295 4,404,203	
Sixth District—Total Residential All Others	\$20,393,728 5,132,610 15,261,118	\$19,050,679 2,795,181 16,255,498		
State Totals: Alabama Florida. Georgia. Louisiana. Mississippi. Tennessee.	2,756,500 6,693,700 3,165,200 4,123,100 2,438,800 4,964,900	1,937,000 6,246,700 2,821,600 4,843,600 3,801,100 3,659,400	1,111,900 1,609,700 1,499,600 638,900 1,215,700 605,400	

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Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Production, orders and unfilled orders at lumber mills reporting to the Southern Pine Association continued in December well above the corresponding period a year ago and for the year 1935, according to the Southern Lumberman, production was 11 per cent, orders 21 per cent and shipments 19 per cent larger than in 1934, and stocks were reduced about 18 per cent. For the five weeks ending January 4, orders at reporting mills averaged 58.2 per cent, production 48.5 per cent and unfilled orders 57.7 per cent above corresponding weeks a year ago. Press Reports record a noticeable improvement in demand for all sorts of building lumber, and indicate that more retail yards are buying ahead. Prices have advanced in recent weeks on the higher grade stock, and surpluses of low-grade material are reported as about cleaned up.

Consumption of cotton by American mills declined 1.9 per cent from November to December, but was 19.4 per cent greater than a year ago. Consumption in the cotton states in December was 2.5 per cent less, but in other states 1.7 per cent larger, than in November, but in the cotton states December consumption was 26 per cent greater than a year ago while in other states it was 5.7 per cent smaller. For the five months of the season, August through December, consumption in the United States has been 13.1 per cent, and in the cotton states 18.8 per cent, larger than in that period a year ago, but in other states 9.5 per cent smaller. Consumption in the cotton states accounted for 83.5 per cent of the total in December, 84 per cent in November, and 79.1 per cent in December. 1934.

Exports of cotton in December declined 22.7 per cent from November, but were larger than in any other month in two years, and for the five months of the season have exceeded the total for that part of last season by 43.9 per cent.

Stocks of cotton held by mills at the end of December were larger than a month earlier, and in the cotton states mill stocks were larger than a year ago. Active spindles increased slightly from November to December but averaged 6.7 per cent less than a year ago, most of the decrease being in "other states". Census Bureau figures are compared in the table.

December consumption in Georgia amounted to 97,266 bales, in Alabama 57,721 bales, and in Tennessee 11,449 bales, a total of 166,436 bales, which was about the same as in November but 36.9 per cent greater than in December a year ago. For the

COTTON CONSUMPTION, EX			VE SPINDLES
UNITEL	Dec. 1935		Dec. 1934
Cotton Consumed	498,329	507,836	417,344
Stocks	9.814.268	9.975.939	10,869,206
In Consuming Establishments In Public Storage and at	1,427,484	1,346,127	1,301,271
Compresses	8,386,784	8,629,812	9,567,935
Exports	877,480	1,134,874	504,685
Active Spindles-Number	23,391,370	23,193,734	25,072,972
COTTON GI	NOWING STAT	'ES-Bales	
Cotton Consumed	415.914	426,794	329,993
Stocks	9,485,999	9,691,813	10,391,298
In Consuming Establishments In Public Storage and at	1,220,758	1,171,280	1,045,879
Compresses	8,265,241	8,520,533	9.345.419
Active Spindles—Number	17,209,878	17,016,232	17,416,450

five months of the cotton season, August through December, consumption in these states amounted to 788,540 bales, larger by 26.5 per cent than during that part of the season before, and also larger than during the same period of other recent years.

Confidential reports from Cotton mills in the District show a slight decline in production of both yarn and cloth from November to December, but production, shipments, unfilled orders and employment continued larger than a year earlier. Orders declined over the month and were smaller than a year ago. Stocks of cloth increased 3.7 per cent over November, but stocks of yarn decreased 7.1 per cent, and stocks of both cloth and yarn were much smaller than a year ago. Number of workers on payrolls of reporting mills averaged 2.1 per cent less than in November, but 7.1 per cent larger than for December, 1934.

Operations at cotton seed oil mills in the District declined from November to December, as they usually do at that time, and although receipts of seed at the mills were less than in December, 1934, crushings and production of the principal products from seed were greater than at that time. For the five months, August through December, crushings in this District were 17.7 per cent greater than in that part of 1934, and production showed increases ranging from 14 per cent in crude oil to 21.7 per cent in linters. Stocks of seed at mills at the end of December were 35.6 per cent less than a year ago, and stocks of hulls and linters were also smaller, but those of crude oil and cake and meal were larger. Census Bureau figures are compared in the table.

Total production of electric power for public use in the six states located wholly or partly in the Sixth District declined 1.2 per cent from October to November, but was 6 per cent greater than in November last year, and also greater than for November of any other recent year. Daily average production, however, increased further in November by 2.1 per cent. Production by use of water power, which had declined substantially in October, increased in November and accounted for 56.6 per cent of the total, compared with 44.9 per cent in October, and with 64.2 per cent a year ago. Production in these six states during the eleven months, January to November, was 11.2 per cent greater than in that part of 1934.

Coal production in Alabama and Tennessee increased in December compared with November, be-

COTTON S	Sixth 1	District* to Dec. 31	O PRODUCTS United States Aug. 1 to Dec. 31		
	1935	1934	1935	1934	
Cotton Seed-Tons:					
Received at Mills	1,228,884	1,226,536	3,235,291	3,092,248	
Crushed	973,169	826,949	2,475,436	2,183,966	
On Hand Dec. 31	301,248	467,519	849,430	1,131,043	
Production:					
Crude Oil, Ibs	301,596,167	264,569,895	745,954,242	671,648,622	
Cake and Meal, tons	430,455	360,611	1,114,500	988,490	
Hulls, tons	256.773	221,187	635,956		
Linters, bales	212,453	174,602	551,536	474,538	
Stocks at Mills Dec. 31:					
Crude Oil, lbs	19,571,993	12.901.169	80,125,807	46,641,157	
Cake and Meal, tons	123,239	111,476	355,432	325,123	
Hulls, tons	46,470	61,906	192,437	187,668	
Linters, bales	46,224	46,849	181,161	168,356	

*Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

cause of the labor difficulties which extended into November, and production in Alabama was 0.8 per cent, and in Tennessee 1.4 per cent, larger than in December a year ago. For the year, however, Alabama production was approximately 14.8 per cent less than in 1934, and Tennessee output was about the same as in that year.

In the United States as a whole December production is estimated by the United States Bureau of Mines at 4.6 per cent above that of November, and 7.1 per cent larger than a year ago, and for the year total output is estimated at 368,120,000 tons, 2.4 per cent larger than in 1934 and 10.3 per cent greater than in 1933.

Pig iron production in the United States during December, according to Iron Age statistics, amounted to 2,106,453 tons, a gain of 2 per cent in total, but a decrease of 1.3 per cent on a daily average basis, compared with November, and slightly more than double production in December, 1934. For the year total production was 21,007,802 tons, 32 per cent larger than in 1934 and the largest annual total since 1930.

Alabama production of pig iron in December was 162,714 tons, 27.5 per cent larger than in November and nearly two and one-half times production in December, 1934. Furnaces active at the end of December number 12, an increase of 1 over the month, and twice the number active a year earlier. December production and furnace activity in Alabama was at the highest level for any month since June, 1931. Total production in Alabama during 1934 was 1,268,-440 tons, a gain of 11.2 per cent over 1934, larger by 42.5 per cent than in 1933, and 92.3 per cent greater than in 1932. Press reports indicate that iron buying in Alabama is still lagging because of heavy purchases prior to the advance in price to \$15.50 per ton on November 23rd, but shipments during December against these contracts were heavy.

Receipts of turpentine and rosin at the three principal markets of the District declined seasonally in December, and were less than a year earlier, and stocks of rosins declined, but those of turpentine increased further to the largest total for any month in recent years. Quotations on the Savannah market for turpentine rose from $431/_2$ cents per gallon on December 14 to $461/_2$ cents two weeks later, and on January 11 stood at $451/_2$ cents, and the average of quotations on the thirteen grades of rosin rose from \$4.54 per 280 pounds on December 14 to \$4.65 on January 4, and a week later was \$4.62. Colder weather than usual in December accentuated the seasonal decline in receipts during December.

		entine (1)	ENT Rosin (2)		
	Dec. 1935	Dec. 1934	Dec. 1935	Dec. 1934	
Receipts:					
Savannah	6,134	7,054	29,9 87	40,660	
Jacksonville	4,977	9,357	34,465	61,208	
Pensacola	2,239	6,423	11,100	20,305	
Total	13,350	22,834	75,552	122,173	
Stocks:					
Savannah	51,085	20,529	111,360	126,618	
Jacksonville	58,447	53,088	134,695	157,027	
Pensacola	35,703	33,354	68,998	38,015	
Total	145,235	106,971	315,053	321,660	

(1) Barrels of 50 Gallons. (2) Barrels of 500 Pounds.

MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS COMPUTED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA MONTHLY AVERAGE 1923-1925=100

PEPARTMENT STORE TRADE—SIXTH DISTRICT	Oct. 1935	Nov. 1935	Dec. 1935	Oct. 1934	Nov. 1934	Dec. 1934
Daily Average Sales—Unadjusted	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
tlanta (3 firms)	175.9	182.2	283.8	161.3	159.9	271.9
irmingham (4 firms) hattanooga (4 firms)	72.2 85.7	86.8	138.6 123.1	77.2	72.0 74.6	115.7
ashville (4 firms)	93.5	81.8 89.7	141.8	81.9	83.0	118.2 136.9
ew Orleans (5 firms)	87.9	94.6	138.1	80.0	83.3	122.8
DISTRICT (34 firms)	97.6	102.6	157.5	90.6	91.3	145.6
Daily Average Sales—Adjusted*						
tlanta (3 firms) irmingham (4 firms)	147.8	170.3	172.0	135.5	149.4	164.8
hattanooga (4 firms)	62.2 69.1	77.5 73.7	81.5 78.9	66.6 61.5	64.3 67.2	68.1 75.8
Tashville (4 firms)	79.9	78.7	84.9	70.0	72.8	82.0
ew Orleans (5 firms)	76.4	79.5	80.3	69.6	70.0	71.4
ISTRICT (34 firms)	82.0	90.0	92.6	76.1	80.1	85.6
Monthly Stocks—Unadjusted						
tlanta (3 firms)	126.5	131.8	92.2	115.3	113.9	75.8
hirmingham (3 firms)	50.7 56.2	61.3 55.1	50.7 45.7	45.6	46.1 45.7	37.0 39.5
Tashville (4 firms)	72.1	73.6	58.9	73.0	45.7	58.0
few Orleans (4 firms)	57.8	61.6	50.4	63.8	64.6	53.0
USTRICT (27 firms)	69.3	73.9	58.6	67.2	70.0	55.2
Monthly Stocks—Adjusted*						
tlanta (3 firms)	112.9	116.6	106.0	102.9	100.8	87.1
birmingham (3 firms) Chattanooga (3 firms)	46.1 50.2	54.7 50.1	55.7 51.9	41.5	41.2 41.6	40.7 44.9
Tashville (4 firms)	63.8	65.7	65.4	64.6	66.4	64.4
lew Orleans (4 firms)	52.5	56.5	58.6	58.0	59.3	60.0
USTRICT (27 firms)	62.4	66.6	65.8	60.5	63.0	62.0
HOLESALE TRADE—SIXTH DISTRICT—TOTAL	74.1	65.7	63.1	67.7	63.3	55.8
roceries (19 firms).	58.2	52.3	52.1	54.2	51.1	52.1
Ory Goods (14 firms)	90.5 78.9	68.4 72.4	53.8 69.0	79.2	72.7 65.1	45.4 55.3
urnitute (9 firms).	66.7	60.1	61.4	63.2	59.3	53.6
lectrical Supplies (5 firms)	99.7	102.4	118.8	78.9	85.2	82.6
tationery (3 firms)	48.1	40.1	45.8	46.6	41.3	37.7
Prugs (7 firms)	93.7	89.5	90.6	89.0	85.8	83.4
IFE INSURANCE SALES-SIX STATES-TOTAL	60.0	59.1	72.1	60.2	58.9	78.2
labama	46.7 76.8	49.2 65.3	60.4 83.7	50.8 67.1	52.1 61.9	73.8 79.1
eorgia,	68.2	67.8	80.3	65.0	86.9	86.7
ouisiana	63.4	65.9	80.0	71.2	62.5	89.9
Aississippi	51.8	49.2	62.9	50.3	56.4	71.4
ennessee	52.8	54.1	64.3	55.4	53.0	67.7
UILDING PERMITS—TWENTY CITIES	35.8	33.6	29.2	21.8	18.1	14.9
tlanta Birmingham	19.7 13.5	12.1 6.1	5.2 9.8	13.2	15.4 7.0	4.7 7.1
acksonville	51.7	45.5	36.9	23.1	25.1	14.9
Tashville	63.7	83.5	159.0	7.6	6.9	39.6
Tew Orleans	10.9	10.6	21.1	12.7	6.6	3.4
ifteen Other Cities	46.6	47.3	27.0	31.8	24.9	19.7
ONTRACT AWARDS-SIXTH DISTRICT-TOTAL	47.1 28.9	54.3 19.9	58.1 36.6	22.6	26.8 12.0	16.3 9.3
11 Others	59.3	77.2	72.4	26.9	36.7	20.9
HOLESALE PRICES-UNITED STATES †						
LL COMMODITIES	80.5 78.2	80.6 77.5	80.9 78.3	76.5	76.5 70.8	76.9 72.0
oods	78.2	85.1	78.3	74.8	70.8	72.0
ther Commodities	78.3	78.8	78.7	78.0	78.0	78.0
Hides and leather products	93.6	95.0	95.4	83.8	84.2	85.1
Textile products	72.9	73.4	73.2 74 B	70.3	69.7 74.4	70.0
Fuel and lighting Metals and metal products	73.4 86.5	74.5 86.9	74.6 86.8	74.6	74.4 86.2	73.7 85.9
Building materials	86.1	85.8	85.5	85.2	85.0	85.1
Chemicals and drugs	81.1	81.2	80.6	77.1	76.9	78.1
Housefurnishing goods Miscellaneous	80.6 67.5	81.0 67.4	81.0 67.5	81.7 69.7	81.3 70.6	81.2 71.0
OTTON CONSUMPTION—UNITED STATES	107.2	98.6	96.8	101.6	93.2	81.0
otton-Growing States	134.1	124.7	121.5	120.4	112.4	96.4
Il Other States	53.9	47.0	47.7	64.2	55.1	50.6
Georgia Alabama	135.8	126.2 165.6	124.8 167.9	110.8	104.9 135.6	90.9 121.0
Alabama	174.7 133.1	118.7	115.0	118.4	106.7	91.8
OTTON EXPORTS-UNITED STATES	138.6	221.0	170.9	119.9	111.5	98.3
IG IRON PRODUCTION-United States	66.2	69.2	70.5	31.8	32.0	34.4
Alabama	44.5	55.0	70.1	25.3	25.1	28.6

*Adjusted for Seasonal Variation. †Compiled by Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1926-100.