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

Total volume of industrial production increased in January, but owing to a decline in activity in the automobile and allied industries from an exceptionally high level in December, the increase was less than is usual at this season.

Production and Employment Total output at factories increased by a smaller amount than is usual in January, while output at mines showed a seasonal increase. The Board's combined index of

industrial production, which makes allowance for seasonal changes, declined from 104 per cent of the 1923-25 average in December to 99 per cent in January. This decrease reflected chiefly sharp reductions in output of steel and of automobiles from the high levels reached in December. In the first three weeks of February the average rate of operations at steel mills showed a smaller increase over the January average than is usual, and at automobile factories output was estimated to be at a lower level than in January. Smaller than seasonal increases in activity were reported at textile mills and at shoe factories, while output of food products was in considerably larger volume in January than a month earlier.

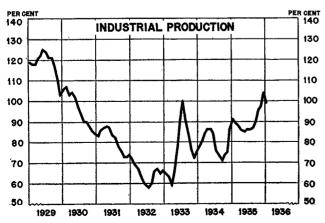
Factory employment showed a small seasonal decrease between the middle of December and the middle of January. At automobile factories the number of workers, which usually increases at this season, was unchanged, and at textile mills employment declined. Factory payrolls decreased by more than the usual amount.

Value of construction contracts awarded, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, was smaller in January than in December. Awards for publicly financed projects decreased from the relatively high December figure, and there was a seasonal decline in contracts for residential construction.

Distribution Retail trade was reduced more than seasonally in January, reflecting in part the influence of unusually severe weather. Sales by department stores, variety stores, and mail-order houses all declined by more than the usual seasonal amount. Freight-car loadings showed little change; loadings of coal increased considerably, while rail shipments of miscellaneous freight declined.

Commodity
Prices

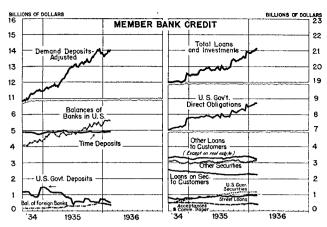
The general level of wholesale commodity
prices continued to show little change during January and the first three weeks of
February. Prices of cotton textiles, flour, wheat and silk
declined, while prices of hogs, petroleum, coffee and rubber
increased considerably. Retail prices of foods decreased
somewhat during January.



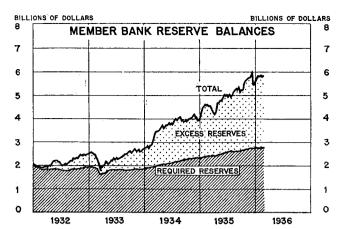
Index number of industrial production, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average = 100.) Latest figure January Preliminary 99.



Index of factory employment, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-25 average = 100.) Latest figure January Preliminary 85.0.



Wednesday figures for reporting member banks in 101 leading cities. Sept. 5, 1934, to Feb. 12, 1936.



Wednesday figures of total member bank reserve balances at Federal Reserve banks, with estimates of required and excess reserves, January 6, 1932, to February 19, 1936.

Bank Excess reserves of member banks fluctuated between January 22 and February 19 near a \$3,000,000,000 level, changes reflecting principally fluctuations in Treasury holdings of cash and deposits with Federal Reserve banks. Investments of weekly reporting member banks in leading cities increased by \$300,000,000 in the four weeks ending February 12, and reached the largest amount ever held by these banks, while loans decreased by \$130,000,000. Holdings of United States Government obligations increased by \$140,000,000, holdings of obligations guaranteed by the Government by \$50,000,000, and other securities by \$110,000,000.

Adjusted demand deposits of reporting member banks, which declined somewhat from the middle of December to the middle of January, increased by \$290,000,000 in the four weeks ending February 12, while United States Government deposits declined by \$150,000,000.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Although the volume of trade at both retail and wholesale in the Sixth District declined seasonally from December to January, and there were small decreases in debits to individual accounts, construction contracts awarded and in pig iron production, nearly all available series of statistics compare favorably with January a year ago, and with that month of other recent years.

Department store sales declined substantially from December to January, as they always do, following the holiday season, but were 7.2 per cent greater than in January last year, and were at the highest level for January since 1931. Wholesale trade also declined slightly from December, which is not unusual, and averaged 6.2 per cent above January, 1935, and higher than for January of other years since 1930. Bank debits to individual accounts at 26 cities in January were 11.4 per cent greater than a year ago, and the highest for January since 1931.

Total loans and investments at 22 weekly reporting member banks in the District declined 11.7 millions of dollars between January 15 and February 12, but were 18.1 millions greater than a year ago. Since the middle of January a decline of 13.8 millions in loans was only partly offset by

an increase of 2.1 millions in investment holdings. Loans on February 12 were 42.1 millions less than a year ago, but investments 60.2 millions greater. Deposits declined slightly since January 15, but were substantially greater than a year ago, and balances carried with, and for, correspondent banks increased over both of those comparative report dates. At the Federal Reserve Bank discounts increased somewhat since January 15. Member Banks' reserve deposits increased further to the highest level on record on February 5, but declined slightly a week later.

Employment statistics compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics show that both the number of workers, and weekly payrolls, increased each month from the low point for 1935 in July, through December, when the number of workers on payrolls of reporting firms was 15 per cent higher than in July, and payrolls were 22.1 per cent larger, and both number of workers and payrolls were larger than for any month in available figures which go back to December, 1931. The value of building permits issued at 20 reporting cities in January was larger by onethird than in December, more than two and one-half times the total for January last year, and the largest for that month since 1929. Value of construction contracts awarded declined 4 per cent from December to January, but was larger than for January of other years since 1930. Consumption of cotton by mills in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee combined increased substantially over December, and except for two months in the spring of 1933, was at the highest level on record. Operations at cotton seed oil mills in the District declined seasonally in January but continued at a higher rate than last year. Production, orders and un-

FEDERAL RESERVE BAN (In Thousands of		LANTA	
	Feb. 12 1936	Jan. 15 1936	Feb. 13 1935
Bills Discounted:			
Secured by Govt. Obligations	\$ 162	\$ 75	\$ 115
All Others		12	49
Total Discounts		88	164
Bills Bought in Open Market	163	165	198
Industrial Advances		920	1.076
U. S. Securities	94,209	94,209	94,229
Total Bills and Securities	95,460	95.381	95,667
Total Reserves		187,312	128,373
Member Bank Reserve Account		114.280	85.513
Total Deposits	. 133,976	123,887	91,450
F. R. Notes in Actual Circulation		152,479	125,141
Reserve Ratio		67.8%	59.3%
Commitments to make Industrial	70	/0	70
Advances	398	493	735

filled orders at lumber mills averaged substantially higher in January than at the same time a year ago. Coal production in Alabama and Tennessee increased over December and was greater than a year ago, and although pig iron output in Alabama declined slightly from December, it was higher in January than in that month of any year since 1930. Electric power production reached the highest level for any month on record in December, and for the year 1935 was larger than for any other year for which figures are available.

FINANCE

The volume of credit outstanding at the Fed-Reserve eral Reserve Bank of Atlanta, indicated in its Bank total holdings of bills and securities, rose Credit slightly between January 15 and February 12, but continued at about the level it has been since the middle of 1934. There was an increase in the small volume of discounted bills held on February 12 compared with other recent Wednesday figures, and also compared with the same report date a year ago, but there were small declines in holdings of purchased bills and in industrial advances which were also in smaller amounts than a year earlier. Holdings of United States securities were at the same level on February 12 as for the past several months, and only slightly less than a year ago.

Total reserves held by the bank on February 12 amounted to 195 millions of dollars, the highest on record, having risen 7.8 millions since January 15, and 66.7 millions during the past year. There was also a further increase of 4.3 millions in member banks' reserve deposit between January 15 and February 12, when they were 33 millions greater than on the corresponding Wednesday a year ago. Total deposits, at 134 millions on February 12, were also at a new high, and 42.5 millions greater than a year ago.

There was a further reduction of about 2.2 millions in the volume of Federal Reserve notes of this bank's issue in actual circulation from January 15 to 29, but an increase of about 2.1 millions in the two following weeks, and on February 12 the total was 27.2 millions higher than on the same Wednesday last year.

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

CONDITION OF 22 MEMBER BANK (In Thousands of		LECTED CIT	TIES
(Feb. 12 1936	Jan. 15 1936	Feb. 13 1935
Loans and Investments—Total	\$506,504	\$518,235	\$488,428
Loans—Total		224,559	252,886
On Securities		53,929	63,529
To Brokers and Dealers	5.246	5,703	7,996
To Others		48,226	55,533
Real Estate Loans	21,006	21,010	19,586
Acceptances and com'l paper bought	5.201	5,187	4,811
Loans to Banks		539	7,601
Other Loans		143,894	157,359
Investments—Total	295,761	293,676	235,542
U. S. Govt. Direct Obligations	. 182.790	179,776	146,216
Obligations Guaranteed by U. S.		37.365	21,240
Other Securities		76,535	68,086
Reserve with F. R. Bank	67,576	63.317	42,727
Cash in Vault		9,016	8,643
Balances with domestic banks	157.886	152,970	116.972
Demand deposits—adjusted		292,848	237,580
Time Deposits		169,665	168,462
Inter-bank deposits: Domestic	201.431	197.328	181,197
Foreign		1,248	996
Borrowings			

Total loans and investments of 22 weekly re-Member porting member banks in leading cities of the Bank District increased rather steadily from the mid-Credit dle of 1935 to December 18, but have declined from 531.9 millions on that date to 506.5 millions on February 12. The rise during the last half of 1935 was due to increased investment holdings, principally those of United States direct obligations. On February 12 total loans were 13.8 millions less than on January 15, and 42.1 millions less than a year ago, but investments increased 2.1 millions since January 15 and were 60.2 millions greater than on the same Wednesday last year. Direct obligations of the United States Government accounted for 36.6 millions of this increase, obligations guaranteed by the Government 18 millions, and other securities 5.6 millions.

Demand deposits-adjusted increased in the two weeks following January 15, but have since declined to a level a little below that on that date, but on February 12 were 54 millions greater than a year earlier. Time deposits on February 12 were slightly larger than four weeks earlier or a year ago. Balances maintained by these weekly reporting member banks with correspondent banks increased 4.9 millions since January 15 and were 40.9 millions greater than a year earlier, and deposits held for correspondent banks increased 4.1 millions between January 15 and February 12 and were 70 millions greater than on the same Wednesday last year. Reserves maintained by these banks with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta increased 4.3 millions since January 15, and were 24.8 millions greater than a year earlier.

Savings deposits at the end of January reported by 57 banks located throughout the District averaged 4 per cent

DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS*

(In Thousa	nds of Dollars)		
	January 1986	December 1935	January 1935
ALABAMA—4 Cities	\$135,894	\$126,249	\$118,330
Birmingham	80,568	72,609	66,669
Dothan	2,379	2,706	2,319
Mobile	30,627	29,754	24,974
Montgomery	22,320	21,180	24,368
FLORIDA—4 Cities	142,783	145,207	124,386
Jacksonville	66,956	72,279	62,252
Miami	39,638	37,012	30,762
Pensacola	7,013	8,593	6,131
Tampa		27,323	25,241
GEORGIA-10 Cities	235,300	269,090	216,581
Albany	3,383	3,845	8,325
Atlanta		179,120	141,983
Augusta	17,515	19,168	16,635
Brunswick	2,306	2,353	1,809
Columbus	11,910	11,907	9,948
Elberton	867	1,075	731
Macon	12,525	14,706	10,952
Newnan	1,699	1,760	1,370
Savannah	27,289	31,535	26,218
Valdosta	3,413	8,621	2,9 10
LOUISIANA—New Orleans	200,589	218,809	183,168
MISSISSIPPI-4 Cities	40,275	40,408	40,700
Hattiesburg	4,092	3,767	3,796
Jackson		21,486	23,185
Meridian	9,615	8,376	8,614
Vicksburg	6,921	6,779	5,105
TENNESSEE—3 Cities	144,887	139,008	124,803
Chattanooga		36,551	36,020
Knoxville		25,771	21,193
Nashville		76,686	68,290
			4005 000

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

\$899,678

\$938,771

Total-26 Cities .

less than a month earlier, but were 5.6 per cent larger than a year ago.

Total debits to individual accounts by reporting banks in 26 cities of the District declined 4.2 per cent from December to January but were 11.4 per cent greater than in January, 1935. Except for December, the January total is the largest for any month since June, 1931. All but two cities reported gains over January last year.

AGRICULTURE

Except for a few days in the middle of January, the first six weeks of 1936 have brought unusually cold weather to most parts of the Sixth District, accompanied by snow and sleet. Below freezing temperatures extended into southern Florida. Extreme South Florida escaped the cold weather with little damage to tender crops, but potatoes in North Florida were killed, and strawberries in the main producing sections were badly damaged.

Prospective production of oranges in Florida remains at 16 million boxes, compared with 17.6 million boxes produced in the 1934-35 season, and the estimate of grapefruit

LIVESTOCK	ON FARMS		Y 1	
	1936	·	193	5
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Alabama: Total		\$ 72,907		\$ 58,920
Horses and Colts	51	4,512	50	3,689
Mules and Mule Colts	319	42,934	322	36.344
All Cattle		17,424	1,125	13,850
*Cows and Heifers		10,900	459	8,721
Sheep and Lambs		153	48	136
Swine		7,884	889	4,901
Florida: Total		24,397		19,432
Horses and Colts	18	1,719	18	1,458
Mules and Mule Colts	41	5,494	41	4,797
All Cattle	788	14,591	788	11,491
*Cows and Heifers	128	4,480	124	3,968
Sheep and Lambs	39	135	40	106
Swine		2,458	447	1,580
Georgia: Total		80,118		67,428
Horses and Colts		2,413	25	2,300
Mules and Mule Colts	331	51,305	334	45,090
All Cattle	1,012	16,901	1,100	13,906
*Cows and Heifers	398	9,950	419	8,380
Sheep and Lambs	34	116	34	87
Swine	1,235	9,383	1,273	6,045
Louisiana: Total		52,721		42,573
Horses and Colts	122	6,843	122	5,515
Mules and Mule Colts		19,791	199	16,618
All Cattle	1,035	19,517	1,125	15,955
*Cows and Heifers		9,831	853	8,472
Sheep and Lambs		788	275	727
Swine	780	5, 782	777	3,758
Mississippi: Total		72,515		57,847
Horses and Colts		6,009	77	4,983
Mules and Mule Colts		39,714	851	83,5 56
All Cattle		19,383	1,401	14,489
*Cows and Heifers		12,474	610	9,760
Sheep and Lambs		237	72	191
Swine	927	7,172	927	4,628
Tennessee: Total		93,006		70,524
Horses and Colts		13,896	141	11,488
Mules and Mule Colts	297	37,695	306	31,935
All Cattle		29,922	1,283	19,632
*Cows and Heifers		18,240	594	12,474
Sheep and Lambs		2,236	411	1,877
Swine		9,257	1,002	5,592
Total: Six States		395,664		816,724
Horses and Colts	438	35,392	433	29,433
Mules and Mule Colts		196,933	1.553	168,340
All Cattle	6,328	117,738	6,772	89,323
*Cows and Heifers		65,875	2,559	51,775
Sheep and Lambs		3,665	880	3,124
Swine		41,936	5,315	26,504
	0,202	**,000	0,010	20,004

^{*}Included in "All Cattle."

continues at 10.5 million boxes, compared with the 15.2 million boxes last season. Low temperatures in January apparently did not injure citrus fruits, but the cold in December probably hastened maturity of the fruit. The acreage intended to be planted in early potatoes in 1936 is slightly smaller than in 1935 in Florida, somewhat larger in Alabama, but the same as a year ago in the other states of the District.

Live Stock on Farms

The annual estimate by the United States Department of Agriculture indicates more horses, but fewer mules, cattle, sheep and hogs on farms in this District than last year, and the largest total value reported for a number of years. Detailed comparisons by states are shown in the table.

Cash receipts from the sale of principal farm products in this District were 3.5 per cent smaller in 1935 than in 1934, but receipts from livestock and livestock products increased 36.1 per cent so that the combined income from farm products and livestock increased 3.1 per cent. A table sets out these figures by states for the past four years. Rental and benefit payments, not included in the figures in the table, amounted to \$71,628,000 in 1935, \$58,120,000 in 1934, and \$36,251,000 in 1933.

CASH RE	CCEIPTS FROM SALE OF			DUCTS
	1985	1934	1933	1932
Alabama	\$ 92,88	6 \$101,373	\$ 63,627	\$ 59,066
Florida	87,22	4 89,391	64,440	76,559
Georgia	114,88	3 107,450	88,033	58,311
Louisiana	84,74	3 80,883	63,180	56,385
Mississippi	116,86	3 107,218	88,836	70,592
Tennessee	95,71	2 88,311	69,719	63,550
Total	\$592,31	1 \$574,626	\$437,835	\$384,463

Fertilizer tag sales in the District increased seasonally in January, were 30 per cent greater than a year ago and larger than in that month of any recent year. For the six months of the season total sales in these states have been 11.5 per cent greater than in that part of the season before.

	IOVEMENT—: Raw Sugar					
naw bugar						
	Jan. 1936	Dec. 1935	Jan. 1935			
Receipts:						
New Orleans	46,093,364	79,410,418	25,043,807			
Savannah	59,512,340	15,471,569	35,749,454			
Meltings:						
New Orleans	88,554,985	36,945,654	47,523,815			
Savannah	59,512,340	18,157,750	48,376,057			
Stocks:	• •					
New Orleans	47,388,893	89,855,194	66,379,278			
Savannah		16,748,642	52,596,310			
Re	efined Sugar					
Shipments:						
New Orleans	76,036,094	46,049,096	58,043,678			
Savannah	53,076,950	22,575,888	36,727,597			
Stocks:						
New Orleans	24,429,576	18,827,412	29,668,497			
Savannah	5,452,279	3,120,689	10,907,724			

RICE MOVEMENT	
Rice Millers' Association Stat	istics
Receipts of Rough Rice* January	AugJan. Incl.
Season 1935-36 845,387	6,921,263
Season 1984-85 687,851	5,263,388
Distribution of Milled Rice:	
Season 1935-861,019,005	4,586,648
Season 1934-35 829,404	4,649,029
Stocks: Rough*	Clean**
January 31, 1936 1,939,469	1,104,111
January 31, 1935 851,399	1,396,032

DICE MOVEMENT

^{*}Barrels of 162 lbs.; **Pockets of 100 lbs.

RETAIL TRADE IN THE SIXTH DISTRICT DURING JANUARY, 1936

	Comparison o January wit	of Net Sales v, 1936	Comparison January	of Stocks 31, 1986		lurnover	•	Collection Ratio	D
	Same month a year ago	Previous Month	Same month a year ago	Previous Month	Ja n 1936	uary 1935	Jan. 1936	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1935
Atlanta (6) Birmingham (5) Chattanoga (4)	- +17.4	57.1 57.0 51.9	$^{+12.4}_{+28.3}_{+18.7}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \ 0.2 \\ + \ 5.1 \\ + 10.5 \end{array}$.30 .21 .24	.36 .24 .26	40.0 34.1 31.1	28.5 34.4 30.6	29.6 33.6 32.5
Jacksonville (3) Miami (3) Nashville (4)	- 3.7 - + 0.9	—58.8 —35.5 —60.7	$\begin{array}{c} + 1.3 \\ - 4.8 \\ - 4.8 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.4 \\ +0.9 \\ -0.8 \end{array} $.17 .43 .28	.18 .43 .21	29.6	29.5	38.5
New Orleans (4) Other Cities (27) DISTRICT (56)	+ 3.8 - 7.2	—52.6 —54.8 —53.4	$ \begin{array}{c} -3.1 \\ +6.3 \\ +6.3 \end{array} $	- 7.3 - 1.7 - 0.7	.20 .21 .25	.22 .22 .26	41.0 35.0 87.0	43.9 83.6 88.5	38.9 32.5 83.0

NOTE: The rate of stock turnover is the ratio of sales during given period to average stocks on hand. The collection ratio is the percentage of accounts outstanding and due at the beginning of the month which were collected during the month.

TRADE

Retail Department store sales in the Sixth District declined seasonally from the highest level in six years recorded in December, to January, following the holiday season, but in January they were 7.2 per cent greater than in that month last year and the highest for January since 1931. Birmingham and New Orleans reported the larger gains over January, 1935. Stocks of merchandise averaged about the same as for December, and were 6.3 per cent larger than a year ago. Stock turnover was slightly less than a year ago, but the collection ratio was higher than for any other month in recent years. The January ratio for regular accounts was 41 per cent, and for installment accounts 16.8 per cent.

Percentage comparisons 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

Statistics compiled by the Department of Commerce indicate that sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas of the South were 20 per cent larger in 1935 than in 1934, and 48.2 per cent larger than in 1933. These increases for the South compare with increases for the country as a whole of 19 per cent over 1934 and 46.4 per cent over 1933.

Life Insurance
Insurance

January sales of life insurance in this District declined 24 per cent from December, and were 32 per cent less than a year ago, and also smaller than in January two years ago. There is usually a decline from December to January, although last year there was an increase of 3.6 per cent at that time. Figures compared in the table are from those compiled by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau.

	(In Thousands of Dollars)			
	January 1936	December 1935	January 1935	
Alabama	\$ 2,752	\$ 4,098	\$ 4,221	
Florida	4,119	4,954	4,872	
Georgia	5,295	7.367	7,942	
Louisiana	3,959	5.067	7.222	
Mississippi	2,078	2.749	2,510	
Tennessee	4,856	6,055	7,246	
Total	\$ 23,059	\$ 30,290	\$ 34,018	
United States	479,018	575,600	645,834	

Wholesale January sales by 81 reporting wholesale firms in the District declined 5.5 per cent from December, but were 6.2 per cent larger than a year ago, and the largest for January since 1930. Stocks on hand increased, however, over both a month and a year ago, but

WHOLESALE TRADE IN JANUARY, 1936 Sixth Federal Reserve District*

		Percentage Comparisons		
	Number of Firms	Jan. 1936 with: Dec. 1935	Jan. 1935	
	OI FIIMS	Dec. 1888	Jan. 1000	
All Lines Combined:				
Sales	81	— 5.5	+ 6.2	
Stocks	27	+ 7.5	+6.7	
Groceries:				
Sales	18	+ 0.1	— 1.7	
Jacksonville	3	+14.3	— 4.7	
New Orleans	3	<u>14.8</u>	— 0.8	
Vicksburg	8	+ 4.6	— 4.0	
Other Cities	9	÷ 7.1	— 0.1	
Dry Goods:		•		
Sales	14	14.0	— 5.5	
Nashville	3	14.8	-12.1	
Other Cities	11	13. 8	— 3.8	
Stocks	7	+15.4	— 3.9	
Hardware:		•		
Sales	25	+ 0.1	+12.9	
Nashville	3	-10.8	+ 0.2	
New Orleans	5	6.3	+45.2	
Other Cities	17	+ 5.7	+ 3.0	
Stocks	9	+ 5.1	+ 9.8	
Furniture:		•	•	
Sales	7	16.7	+ 7.5	
Atlanta	3	45.4	-23. 0	
Other Cities	4	8.3	+15.4	
Stocks	5	+ 1.4	+13.6	
Electrical Supplies:			,	
Sales	5	39.5	+36.4	
New Orleans	3	-28.4	+41.7	
Stocks	3	+10.0	+12.0	
Drugs:	-	,	,	
Sales	7	+ 0.8	+ 7.6	
Stationery:	•	,	,	
Sales	3	— 1.4	+ 7.9	

COLL			
	January 1936	December 1985	January 1935
Groceries	66.9	64.2	75.0
Dry Goods	36.8	46.5	88.0
Hardware	41.2	41.7	41.7
Furniture	37.0	37.8	32.0
Electrical Supplies	59.5	69.4	56.5
Total	45.8	48.1	49.2

*Based on confidential reports from 81 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.

the collection ratio was lower than for either of those months. Reported figures are compared in the table.

INDUSTRY

The value of buildings for the construction of which permits were issued during January at twenty reporting cities in the District increased a little more than one-third over the December total, was more than two and one-half times as large as for January last year, and the largest January total since 1929. Since 1929 there have been only five months to record a larger total than that for January, 1936—March and July, 1930, April, 1931, and June and July,

BU	ILDING	PERM	ITS-January	7	Damanutama
	Num		Valu		Percentage Change in
Alabama -	1936	1935	1936	1935	Value
Anniston	18	19	\$ 10.644	\$ 5,450	+ 95.3
Birmingham	310	389	139,167	142,721	
Mobile	47	45	182.059	60,577	
Montgomery	111	125	66,099	50,748	
Florida					
Jacksonville	491	501	280,032	201,119	
Miami	732	409	554,929	308,885	
Miami Beach	107	97	261,169	308,518	
Orlando	65	60	85,026	28,328	
Tampa	169	191	58,796	87,832	2 — 33.1
Georgia					
Atlanta	154	196	291,779	106,156	
Augusta	15	26	23,045	2,854	
Columbus	126	56	52,325	26,634	
Macon	112	152	115,512	16,648	
Savannah	18	22	865,585	26,930	+3114.2
Louisiana					
New Orleans	66	75	357,662	135,764	
Alexandria	83	60	9,249	14,808	37.5
Tennessee					
Chattanooga	247	195	601,818	44,706	
Johnson City	2	2	1,025	3,750	
Knoxville	34	26	43,151	48,694	
Nashville	118	68	394,124	54,951	+617.2
Total 20 Cities	2,975	2,713	\$4,393,196	\$1,676,062	+162.1

1935. Fourteen of these twenty reporting cities had larger totals for January, 1936, than a year earlier. The 1935 total for these cities was the largest since 1930. Comparisons for the month are shown in an accompanying table.

The value of building and construction contracts awarded in the Sixth District, according to statistics compiled by 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, declined 4 per cent from December to January but was 69.8 per cent greater than a year ago. Since the middle of 1931 there have been only five months to record larger totals than that for January this year. Residential awards declined from December and were less than a year ago, but other contracts were more than double those for January, 1935. State totals show increases over December in Alabama and Louisiana, and over January last year except in Georgia.

In the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains January awards amounted to \$204,792,800, and were 22.5 per cent less than in December, but a little more than double the total for January, 1935. All classes of construction declined over the month, and increases over January a year ago were: Residential contracts, 67.1 per cent; non-residential awards, 174.5 per cent; and contracts for public works and utilities, 73.1 per cent.

After recording substantial increases for the year 1935 over the year before, production, orders and unfilled orders at lumber mills reporting to the Southern Pine Association averaged somewhat higher in January than in December, because of the holiday and inventory period, and January

	Jan. 1936	Dec. 1935	Jan. 1935
Sixth District—Total	\$19,581,290	\$20,393,728	\$11,534,003
Residential	2,756,681	5,132,610	3,915,651
All Others	16,824,609	15,261,118	7,618,352
State Totals:			
Alabama	3,758,400	2,756,500	1,289,100
Florida	6,136,500	6,693,700	2,094,100
Georgia	2,310,900	3,165,200	5,170,300
Louisiana	4,691,900	4,123,100	2,150,600
Mississippi	1,325,500	2,438,800	1,117,100
Tennessee	4.108.400	4,964,900	1,155,700

production averaged 35.7 per cent larger than a year ago, orders 34 per cent larger, and unfilled orders 63.5 per cent larger. Press reports indicate a distinct improvement in the Southern Pine market during the last half of January. Demand has increased and prices have advanced slightly. Most of the demand, according to press reports, is for yard and shed stock, chiefly home building materials, and is chiefly from retail yards and governmental construction agencies, but orders for timbers and car material have also increased slightly.

Consumption of cotton by American mills increased 18.7 per cent from December to January, and was 7.4 per cent larger than in January last year and the largest January total since 1929. January consumption in the cotton states was 19.6 per cent greater than in December, and in other states 14 per cent, and consumption in the cotton states was 13.2 per cent larger than a year ago, but in other states 15.4 per cent smaller. For the six months of the season total consumption has been 11.9 per cent larger than in that part of the season before, and consumption in the cotton states has been 17.7 per cent larger, but in other states it has been 10.7 per cent less. Consumption in the cotton states accounted for 84.1 per cent of the total in January, and 83.8 per cent for the six months of the season, compared with 79.8 per cent, and 79.7 per cent, respectively, for those periods a year ago.

Exports of cotton declined further from December to January, but were 12.9 per cent larger than a year ago, and for the six months of the season amounted to 3,977,902 bales, larger by 38.9 per cent than exports during that part of the season before.

Stocks of cotton in the hands of mills increased somewhat from December to January and were larger than a year earlier, but those in storage declined over the month and were smaller than a year ago. Spindle activity increased slightly over December in the cotton states, but declined in other states and was less than in January last year.

January consumption in Georgia amounted to 115,971 bales, in Alabama 66,883 bales, and in Tennessee 13,755 bales. The total of 196,609 bales is 18.1 per cent larger than for December, 20.3 per cent larger than for January, 1935, and is the largest monthly total for these three states in available records excepting May and June, 1933, when cotton mill activity reached an unusually high level. For the six months of the cotton season, August through January, consumption in these states has totaled 985,149 bales, 25.2 per cent greater than in that part of the season before, and larger than during that part of other recent years.

According to confidential reports from cotton mills in this District production, shipments, unfilled orders and employment continued in January to exceed that month a year ago. January production and shipments at cloth mills in-

COTTON	CONSUMPTION,	EXPORTS,	STOCKS,	AND	ACTIVE
	SPINDLES, U	INITED STA	TES-Bale	g	

	Jan. 1936	Dec. 1935	Jan. 1935
Cotton Consumed	591,309	498,329	550,553
Stocks	9,319,287	9,814,268	10,137,931
In Consuming Establishments	1,434,992	1,427,484	1,192,065
In Public Storage and at Compresses	7,884,295	8,386,784	8,945,866
Exports	525,636	877,480	465,711
Active Spindles-Number	23,323,958	23,391,370	25,155,152
COTTON GROWING S	TATES-B	ales	
Cotton Consumed	497,360	415,914	439,507
Stocks	8,930,315	9,485,999	9,693,541
In Consuming Establishments	1,211,212	1,220,758	957,763
In Public Storage and at Compresses	7,719,103	8,265,241	8,735,778
Active Spindles-Number	17,250,088	17,209,878	17,502,326

creased over December, but output at yarn mills declined, and orders booked in January at both yarn and cloth mills were less than a month, or a year, earlier. Employment declined somewhat from December to January at both yarn and cloth mills.

Operations at cotton seed oil mills in the District declined seasonally from December to January, but receipts of seed were 63 per cent, and crushings 15 per cent, greater than in January last year. For the six months of the season, August through January, crushings of seed have been 17.3 per cent greater than in that part of the season before, and production of crude oil has been 12.2 per cent, cake and meal 18.2 per cent, hulls 14.5 per cent, and linters 20.5 per cent, greater. Stocks of crude oil, and of cake and meal, at the end of January were larger than a year earlier, but those of hulls and linters were smaller. Census Bureau figures are compared in an accompanying table.

Total production of electric power for public use in the six states located wholly or partly in the Sixth District increased 3.9 per cent from November to December, partly because of the longer month. The December total was the largest for any month in available records, which go back to the beginning of 1927, and the total for the year 1935 was the largest annual total for any of these years. All six states shared in the increase over 1934. Production by use of water power in December accounted for 63.3 per cent of the total, compared with 56.6 per cent for November. For the year production by use of water power was 62.2 per cent of the total, practically the same as in 1934.

According to weekly figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, January coal production in Alabama and Tennessee averaged 9.2 per cent, and 13.3 per cent, respectively, above that in December, and Alabama production was 11.5 per cent, and that in Tennessee 5.1 per cent, larger than in the corresponding period a year ago.

In the United States as a whole, total production in January was 10.8 per cent larger than in December, but on a daily average basis the increase was 6.2 per cent, and January production was 5.2 per cent larger than in that month last year.

Production of pig iron in the United States during January amounted to 2,025,885 tons, a decrease of 3.8 per cent compared with December, but 37.1 per cent greater than in January a year ago. Daily average production was 65,351 tons. There were 117 furnaces active on February 1, compared with 120 a month earlier and with 89 active at the same time last year.

Alabama production of pig iron amounted to 158,886 tons, smaller by 2.4 per cent than in December, but 128.5

COTTON SEE		PTON SEED District*	PRODUCTS United	
		Jan. 31	Aug. 1 to	
	1935-36	1934-35	1935-36	1934-35
Cotton SeedTons:				
Received at Mills	1,291,250	1,262,236	3,479,885	8,220,153
Crushed	1,126,321	960,102	2,982,092	2,586,081
On Hand Jan. 31	220,462	370,066	636,818	856,833
Production:	-		-	
Crudé Oil, lbs	845,723,384	308,094,738	881,577,071	796,046,265
Cake and Meal, tons	493,953	418,008	1.321.846	1,171,694
Hulls, tons	293,071	256,001	753,663	668,532
Linters, bales	246,487	204,576		566,912
Stocks at Mills Jan. 31:	•	•		• -
Crude Oil, lbs	21.401.664	15,221,844	88.338.751	52,275,630
Cake and Meal, tons	123,135	122,845	358,752	340,763
Hulls, tons	40.577		189,133	192,268
Linters, bales	46,948	58,018	199,826	178,998

*Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

per cent greater than in January, 1935. Except for December, January production of iron in Alabama was the largest for any month since July, 1931. There was no change in the number of furnaces active from January 1 to February 1, 12 being active on both dates, which compares with 4 active a year earlier. Press reports indicate that buying of iron continues to lag because most foundries have already booked current requirements. January shipments were at a fair rate, but did not equal those of December. Purchases of sheets and wire products have also been light, as agricultural business and construction work were seriously interfered with by snow, sleet and heavy rains in many sections.

January receipts of turpentine and rosin declined seasonally compared with earlier months. Stocks also declined from December. Turpentine receipts were the smallest, and stocks of turpentine the largest, for any January in available records. Prices on both commodities have declined somewhat since the turn of the year because of lagging demand. Quotations on the Savannah market for turpentine declined from 46½ cents per gallon on January 4 to 44¾ cents on February 8, and the average of quotations on the thirteen grades of rosin declined from \$4.65 per 280 pounds on January 4 to \$4.47 on February 8. Receipts and stocks for January are compared in the table.

N	AVAL STORES	S MOVEMEN	IT	
	Turper	itine (1)	Rosin	n (2)
	Jan. 1936	Jan. 1935	Jan. 1936	Jan. 1935
Receipts:				
Savannah	1,629	1,782	14,965	11,580
Jacksonville	1,717	1,788	28,607	18,722
Pensacola	400	730	2,654	2,109
Total	3,808	4,300	41,226	27,411
Stocks:				
Savannah	46,838	13,919	97,203	91,654
Jacksonville	54,911	48,850	114,349	144,406
Pensacola	04.010	82,012	60,197	36,414
Total	135,959	94,781	271,749	272,474

(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

DEPARTMENT STORE TRADE—SIXTH DISTRICT	Nov. 1935	Dec. 1935	Jan. 1936	Nov. 1934	Dec. 1934	Jan. 1935
Daily Average Sales—Unadjusted						
Atlanta (3 firms)	182.2	283.8	115.9	159.9	271.9	111.9
Birmingham (3 firms)	86.8	138.6	61.2	72.0	115.7	45.2
Chattanooga (4 firms)	81.8 89.7	123.1 141.8	56.9 53.5	74.6 83.0	118.2 136.9	55.1 53.3
Vew Orleans (4 firms)	94.6	138.1	65.4	83.3	122.8	51.6
DISTRICT (30 firms)	102.6	157.5	71.2	91.3	145.6	60.5
Daily Average Sales—Adjusted*						
Atlanta (3 firms)	170.3	172.0	154.5	149.4	164.8	149.2
Birmingham (3 firms)	77.5	81.5	85.0	64.3	68.1	62.8
Chattanooga (4 firms)	73.7	78.9	72.0	67.2	75.8	69.7
Nashville (4 firms)	78.7 79.5	84.9 80.3	71.3 77.9	72.8 70.0	82.0 71.4	71.1 61.4
New Orleans (4 firms)	90.0	92.6	90.1	80.1	85.6	76.6
Monthly Stocks-Unadjusted						
Atlanta (3 firms)	131.8	92.2	91.7	113.9	75.8	79.9
Birmingham (3 firms)	61.3	50.7	54.9	46.1	37.0	41.8
Chattanooga (3 firms)	55.1	45.7	50.5	45.7	39.5	42.6
Nashville (3 firms)	73.6	58.9	47.1	74.4 64.6	58.0 53.0	56.7 48.3
New Orleans (4 firms)	61.6 73.9	50.4 58.6	46.8 57.0	70.0	55.2	53.6
Monthly Stocks-Adjusted*			•			
Atlanta (3 firms)	116.6	106.0	99.7	100.8	87.1	86.8
Birmingham (3 firms)	54.7	55.7	61.0	41.2	40.7	46.4
Chattanooga (3 firms)	50.1	51.9	56.7	41.6	44.9	47.9
Nashville (3 firms)	65.7	65.4	54.1	66.4 59.3	64.4 60.0	65.2 53.1
New Orleans (4 firms)	56.5 66.6	56.6 65.8	51.4 62.6	63.0	62.0	58.9
WHOLESALE TRADE—SIXTH DISTRICT—TOTAL	65.7	63.1	59.8	63.3	55.8	56.2
	l .					
Groceries (18 firms) Dry Goods (14 firms)	52.3 68.4	52.1	51.9 46.3	51.1 7 2. 7	52.1 45.4	52.8 47.5
Hardware (25 firms)	72.4	53.8 69.0	40.3 69.1	65.1	55.3	61.2
Furniture (7 firms)	60.1	61.4	51.2	59.3	53.6	46.1
Electrical Supplies (5 firms)	102.4	118.8	71.8	85.2	82.6	55.7
Stationery (3 firms)	40.1	45.8	45.1	41.3	37.7	41.9
Drugs (7 firms)	89.5	90.6	91.3	85.8	83.4	83.9
LIFE INSURANCE SALES—SIX STATES—TOTAL	59.1	72.1	54.9	58.9	78.2	81.0
Alabama	49.2	60.4	40.6	52.1	73.8	62.2
Florida	65.3	83.7	69.6	61.9	79.1	82.3
Georgia	67.8	80.3	57.7	66.9	86.7	86.6
Louisiana Mississippi	65.9 49.2	80.0	62.5	62.5 56.4	89.9 71.4	114.0 57.4
Tennessee	54.1	62.9 64.3	47.5 51.6	53.0	67.7	77.0
BUILDING PERMITS—TWENTY CITIES						14.0
Atlanta	33.6 12.1	29.2 5.2	39.0 18.9	18.1 15.4	14.9 4.7	14.9 6.9
Birmingham	6.1	9.8	9.4	7.0	7.1	9.6
Jacksonville	45.5	36.9	34.0	25.1	14.9	24.4
Nashville	63.5	159.0	62.1	6.9	39.6	8.7
New Orleans Fifteen Other Cities	10.6 47.3	21.1 27.0	27.8 53.5	6.6 24.9	3.4 19.7	10.5 18.9
CONTRACT AWARDS—SIXTH DISTRICT—TOTAL						32.9
Residential	54.3 19.9	58.1 36.6	55.8 19.6	26.8 12.0	16.3 9.3	27.9
All Others	77.2	72.4	79.9	36.7	20.9	36.2
WHOLESALE PRICES—UNITED STATES †						
ALL COMMODITIES	80.6	80.9	80.6	76.5	76.9	78.8
Farm Products	77.5	78.3	78.2	70.8	72.0	77.6
Foods	85.1	85.7	83.5	75.1	75.3	79.9
Other Commodities	78.8	78.7	78.8	78.0	78.0	77.7
Hides and leather products	95.0	95.4	97.1	84.2	85.1 70.0	86.2
Fuel and lighting	73.4 74.5	73.2 74.6	71.7 75.1	69.7 74.4	70.0 73.7	70.3 72.9
Metals and metal products	86.9	86.8	86.7	86.2	85.9	85.8
Building materials	85.8	85.5	85.7	85.0	85.1	84.9
Chemicals and drugs	81.2	80.6	80.5	76.9	78.1	79.3
Housefurnishing goods	81.0 67.4	81.0 67. 5	81.4 67.8	81.3 70.6	81.2 71.0	81.2 70.7
COTTON CONSUMPTION—UNITED STATES				93.2	81.0	106.2
Cotton-Growing States	98.6	96.8	114.8		96.4	127.4
All Other States	124.7 47.0	121.5 47.7	145.3 54.4	112.4 55.1	96.4 50.6	127.4 64.1
Georgia	126.2	124.8	54.4 148.8	104.9	90.9	124.5
Alabama	165.6	167.9	194.5	135.6	121.0	157.9
Tennessee	118.7	115.0	138.2	106.7	91.8	121.6
COTTON EXPORTS—UNITED STATES	221.0	170.9	102.4	111.5	98.3	90.7
PIG IRON PRODUCTION—United States	69.2	70.5	67.8	32.0	34.4	49.5
Alabama	55.0	70.1	68.4	25.1	28.6	29.9

 $^{{}^{\}star}\mathrm{Adjusted}$ for Seasonal Variation.

[†]Compiled by Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1926-100.