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 Propaged by the

Prepared by the

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Production, wage payments, and the distribution of commodities to consumers increased considerably from October to November. Wholesale commodity prices have advanced steadily since the end of October.

Production and Employment

The Board's index of industrial production, which makes allowance for changes in the number of working days in the month and for the usual seasonal variations, was 114

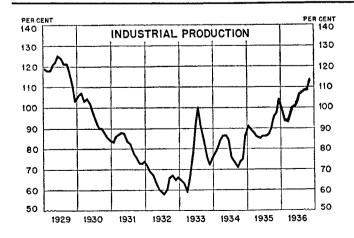
per cent of the 1923-1925 average in November as compared with 109 per cent in October. Output of both durable and nondurable manufactures showed a considerable rise. Production of steel ingots increased further to a rate of 79 per cent of capacity in November, and output of automobiles also increased. Figures for the first three weeks of December indicate continued expansion in output of both steel and automobiles. In the plate glass industry, where there has been a strike, production was sharply reduced in November, and activity at lumber mills declined, reflecting the effects of the maritime shipping strike on the Pacific Coast. Increases in output were reported at meat packing establishments and textile mills, and sugar meltings and output of tobacco products declined by less than the usual seasonal amount. At mines, coal production increased and output of crude petroleum and iron ore showed a smaller than seasonal reduction.

Value of construction contracts awarded, according to figures of the F. W. Dodge Corporation, continued at about the same rate in November as in the previous month.

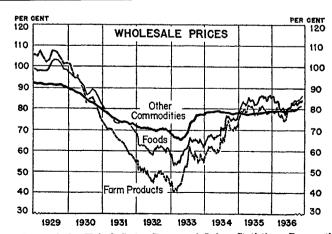
Factory employment showed little change from October to November although a decrease is usual at this season of the year, and the Board's seasonally adjusted index advanced to 96 per cent of the 1923-1925 average. The number employed at factories producing durable goods continued to increase, with the largest expansion in the automobile and machinery industries. There was a decline in employment at lumber mills and in the glass industry. In the nondurable goods industries as a group employment showed a smaller decline than is usual in November. At shoe factories and establishments producing wearing apparel smaller than seasonal declines were reported and there were increases in employment at cotton and woolen textile mills and at meat packing plants.

Department store sales increased substantially in November, and there was also a rise in sales at variety stores and at chain grocery stores. Sales by general merchandise stores and mail order houses serving rural areas declined from the high level reported for October.

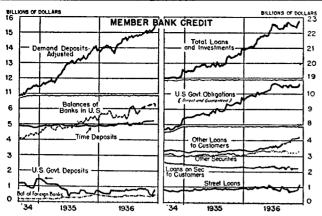
Freight-carloadings showed a smaller than seasonal decrease in November. Loadings of coal, coke, and grain increased contrary to the usual seasonal tendency, and shipments of miscellaneous commodities and of most other classes of freight declined by less than the seasonal amount.



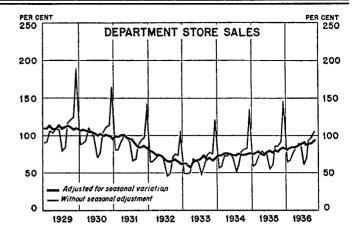
Index number of industrial production, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average = 100.) Latest figure November Preliminary 114.



Indexes of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. By months 1929 to 1931; by weeks 1932 to date. (1926 = 100.) Latest figures Dec. 19. Farm Products 87.7; Foods 85.1; Other Commodities 82.2.



Wednesday figures for reporting member banks in 101 leading cities, Sept. 5, 1934, to December 16, 1936. Loans on real estate, loans to banks, and acceptances and commercial paper bought included in total loans and investments but not shown separately.



Indexes of daily average value of sales. (1923-1925 = 100.) Latest figure November (Preliminary): Adjusted 93, Unadjusted 104.

Commodity Prices

The general level of wholesale commodity prices continued to advance from the middle of November to the third week of

December. There were substantial increases in the prices of wheat, flour, nonferrous metals, and rubber. Prices of wool, cotton yarns and worsted yarns advanced somewhat further and cotton, pig iron, and steel scrap prices also increased in this period.

Bank The reserve position of member banks in recent weeks has been influenced largely by temporary seasonal developments in connection with holiday currency requirements and mid-December financing by the United States Treasury.

Notwithstanding the increased demand for currency for Christmas shopping, there was a further growth in demand deposits at weekly reporting member banks through the first half of December, reflecting additions to monetary gold stock as well as a sharp increase in bank loans.

At reporting banks outside New York City holdings of Government securities increased by \$140,000,000 in the four weeks ending December 16, while at New York City banks they showed a further small decline. There was an increase of \$100,000,000 in loans to brokers and dealers in securities in New York City, largely for the purpose of buying United States Government securities. Commercial loans showed a further increase of \$150,000,000, carrying the total volume of such loans to a level \$800,000,000 higher than a year ago.

SIXTH DISTRICT SUMMARY

Business and industrial activity in the Sixth Federal Reserve District continued in November at a high level, in comparison with earlier months of the year and with the corresponding month of other recent years.

November sales by 57 reporting retail firms in the District declined 10 per cent in total from October to November, but this decrease was due to the shorter month because on a daily average basis there was an increase of 1.2 per cent. November sales were 8 per cent larger than in that month a year earlier, and for the eleven months' period total sales have been 13.7 per cent greater than in that part of 1935. The November index of daily average sales is the highest for that month since 1928. Life insurance sales in November declined less than one per cent compared with October, and were 9.8 per cent greater than in November

last year, while in the country as a whole they were 3.5 per cent smaller. Wholesale trade, which always reaches the fall peak in October and declines in the following months, decreased 13.8 per cent in November, but was 18.1 per cent greater than a year earlier, and for the eleven months of 1936 were 17.8 per cent larger in dollar volume than in that part of 1935. Bank debits to individual accounts were 12.9 per cent smaller in November than in October, but were 13 per cent greater than in November a year ago.

At weekly reporting member banks in leading cities of the District total loans and investments increased further between November 10 and December 9 to the highest level for any Wednesday in about six years. The larger part of the increase in recent months has been in "All Other Loans," which include those for commercial, industrial and agricultural purposes. "All Other Loans" on December 9 were at the highest level since January, 1934, and total loans were the largest since May, 1933. Investment holdings of securities declined between November 10 and December 9 by 9.8 millions, but were 38.6 millions greater than a year earlier. Demand deposits-adjusted increased further to the highest level in available records, and reserves maintained by these banks with the Federal Reserve Bank also reached a new high level. At the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta there was an increase in the small volume of discounts, and deposits and reserves also increased.

Construction contracts awarded in the District during November increased 37 per cent over October, were 50.3 per cent greater than a year ago and for the eleven months of 1936 show an increase of 60.8 per cent over that part of 1935. Building permits issued at twenty cities in the District declined 18 per cent from October to November, but were 26.7 per cent greater than in November last year and the largest November total since 1928. Employment and payrolls increased further in October to the highest level for the recovery period. Consumption of cotton in this District declined 1.6 per cent in total, but the daily average increased 10.8 per cent over October and was the largest for any month on record. The daily average rate of pig iron production in Alabama increased 20.9 per cent in November and was 51 per cent greater than in November, 1935. Electric power production increased and in October for the sixth consecutive month reached a new high level, but the daily average rate of production declined slightly.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA (In Thousands of Dollars)									
(111 1	nous	Dec. 9 1936		Dec. 11 1935					
Bills Discounted: Secured by Govt. Obligations All Others. Total Discounts Bills Bought in Open Market Industrial Advances. U. S. Securities. Total Bills and Securities Total Reserves Member Bank Reserve Account U. S. Treasurer—Gen. Account. Total Deposits	\$	75 270 345 108 486 99,188 100,127 261,657 155,323 2,304 167,721 187,296	\$\$ 17 108 5184 99,188 99,827 251,593 149,156 1,567 155,946 187,871	50 48 98 168 942 94,209 95,417 184,156 112,032 1,543 118,717 152,931					
Commitments to make Industrial Advances		294	304	545					

FINANCE

Reserve
Bank
Credit
Member bank reserve deposits increased further between November 10 and December 9 to a new high level, and in this period there were also increases in total deposits, in reserves, and a

small increase in discounts for member banks. The volume of discounts has been almost negligible since shortly after the banking holiday in 1933. On December 9 discounts amounted to 345 thousands of dollars, compared with 17 thousands four weeks earlier, and was the largest total recorded for any Wednesday since May 1, 1935, and with that single exception, since July 3, 1934. Holdings of purchased bills and of United States securities showed no change since November 10, and industrial advances declined 28 thousands. Compared with the corresponding Wednesday a year ago, increased holdings of United States securities and discounts were partly offset in the total by decreases in industrial advances and purchased bills, and total bills and securities show an increase of \$4,710,000.

Total reserves held by the bank, and member bank reserve accounts, declined slightly in the week following November 10, but increased in the three following weeks to new high levels. Total reserves maintained by member banks in the District during the last half of October averaged 144.3 millions of dollars, approximately 29.6 per cent in excess of actual reserve requirements. Net demand deposits, and actual reserves, increased somewhat in the first half of November, but declined slightly in the latter half of the month, but in both of these periods actual reserves averaged 31.5 per cent in excess of requirements.

Federal Reserve notes of this bank's issue continued at a high level, although slightly below the total on November 10, and approximately 34.4 millions greater than on the corresponding Wednesday a year ago.

Member Total loans and investments of weekly reporting Bank member banks in leading cities of the District Credit increased further between November 10 and December 9, and were at the highest level in about six years. Since mid-year there has been a rather substantial rise in the volume of loans reported by these banks, while holdings of securities have fluctuated within a narrow range. Total loans on December 9 amounted to about 265 millions of dollars, as compared with 218.5 millions the second Wednesday in July, and with 229.2 millions on December a year ago. The larger part of the increase has been in so-called "All Other Loans" which include those for commercial, industrial and agricultural purposes. These "All Other Loans" increased from 129.3 millions on July 8 to 174.2 millions on December 9, when they were 26.6 mil-

CONDITION OF 22 MEMBER BANKS IN SELECTED CITIES (In Thousands of Dollars)								
(11 1	nousa	Dec. 9 1936	mars,	Nov. 10 1936		Dec. 11 1935		
Loans and Investments Loans—Total	\$	589,034 264,991 59,151 6,726 54,425 25,475	\$	586,860 253,055 57,248 5,532 51,716 24,447	\$	514,708 229,224 53,919 6,123 47,796 21,597		
Bought Loans to Banks. Other Loans Investments—Total. U. S. Govt. Direct Obligations		4,942 1,201 174,222 324,043 200,183		5,393 1,304 164,663 333,805 208,575		5,107 989 147,612 285,484 168,580		
ObligationsGuaranteedby U.S. Other Securities Reserve with F. R. Bank Cash in Vault		38,466 85,394 95,114 11,430		39,786 85,444 88,934 11,043		42,316 74,588 62,671 9,983		
Balances with domestic banks Demand DepositsAdjusted Time Deposits U. S. Govt. Deposits Inter-bank Deposits: Domestic. Foreign		127,214 329,882 178,627 32,176 227,140 1,331		122,127 310,335 177,539 40,241 225,317 1,297		150,171 303,523 177,192 18,593 193,812 1,464		
Borrowings								

lions greater than a year earlier. "All Other Loans" were higher on December 9 than on any other Wednesday since January, 1934, and total loans were the highest since May, 1933.

Holdings of investment securities by these banks declined approximately 9.8 millions between November 10 and December 9, but were then 38.6 millions greater than on the corresponding Wednesday a year ago. Since the middle of March total investment holdings of these reporting banks have amounted to more than 300 millions of dollars, and of this amount about three-fourths has been in direct obligations of the United States Government and those guaranteed by the United States.

Demand deposits adjusted at these banks increased between November 10 and December 9 by about 19.5 millions of dollars, and were then 26.4 millions greater than a year ago and at the highest level in available records. Time deposits also increased somewhat since November 10 and were the largest in a little more than a year. Reserves maintained by these banks with the Federal Reserve Bank of

	Nov. 1936	Oct. 1936	Nov. 1935
Alabama—4 Cities	\$ 134,452	\$ 151,843	\$ 115,676
Birmingham	75,116	84,135	64,803
Dothan	3,743 31,920	4,460	2,846
Montgomery	23,673	34,543 28,705	27,156
-	23,073	28,703	20,871
Florida—4 Cities	128,335	134,175	112,012
Jacksonville	59, 137	66,515	55,288
Miami	34,844	31,989	26,705
Pensacola	8,570	9,579	7,322
Tampa	25,604	26,092	22,697
Georgia-10 Cities	264,235	287,977	231,517
Albany	5,571	5,139	3,654
Atlanta	168,951	182,279	149,397
Augusta	19,246	22,087	17,784
Brunswick	2,159	2,326	2,038
Columbus	13,352	14,609	11,247
Elberton	1,317	1,443	1,105
Macon	17,489	19,045	13,963
Newnan	2,333	2,379	2,109
SavannahValdosta	29,448	34,710	27,051
valuosta	4,369	3,960	3,169
Louisiana—New Orleans	210,784	263,437	193,261
Mississippi—4 Cities	57,618	73.890	41,900
Hattiesburg	4,049	4,939	3,511
Jackson	34,204	44,204	22,893
Meridian	9,423	12,065	7,985
Vicksburg	9,942	12,682	7,511
Tennessee-3 Cities	136,692	159,443	130,158
Chattanooga	38,153	45,828	35,823
Knoxville	23,820	27,543	22,737
Nashville	74,719	86,072	71,598
Total—26 Cities	\$ 932,116	\$ 1,070,765	\$ 824,524

Atlanta increased to a new high level. Balances maintained with other domestic banks increased somewhat since November 10, but continued to be less than those reported between September, 1935, and November, 1936. Interbank deposits continued at high levels compared with most previous reporting dates. An accompanying table compares principle items in the report.

Debits to individual accounts at banks in 26 reporting centers declined 12.9 per cent in total amount from October to November, but because of the smaller number of business days the daily average increased 2.2 per cent and was 18 per cent greater than for November last year, which had one

more business day.

AGRICULTURE

The last monthly estimate of the cotton crop of 1936 by the United States Department of Agriculture indicates a total production of 12,407,000 bales. This is an increase of 7,000 bales over the November estimate, and is larger by 1,769,000 bales than the 1935 crop. Estimates for the states of this District show an increase of 1,085,000 bales, or 26.3 per cent, over 1935 production, and indicate the largest crop in these states since 1931. Up to December 1 there had been ginned in these six states a total of 5,165,994 bales, which is larger by 25.7 per cent than the amount ginned to the same time last year. In the country as a whole, total ginnings to December 1 amounted to 11,494,170 bales, an increase of 22.8 per cent over the amount ginned to that time last year. Weather in the Cotton Belt this fall has been remarkably favorable. In the ordinary season there is some loss of open cotton in the fields, but this season practically no losses of this kind occurred. Also frosts held off later than usual through the northern belt, permitting late bolls to mature. Cotton prices were firm and comparatively steady during November, but a strong rise was experienced in the first part of December. The price of Middling spot cotton at the 10 markets averaged 12.06 cents in November, compared with 12.07 cents in October and 11.77 cents in November, 1935. The average for the weeks ended December 5 and 12 were 12.37 and 12.61 cents, respectively. The very high level of domestic consumption and the small supply of cotton in trade channels in the United States continue to be important price strengthening factors,

	NT—NEW OR Raw Sugar Nov. 1936	Oct. 1936	Nov. 1935
Receipts	86,365,156 71,276,820 24,121,675	41,890,214 48,009,722 8,984,346	87,792,624 69,941,697 47,400,389
Shipments	Refined Sugar 68,139,684 16,475,098	56,545,179 22,616,284	53,500,155 30,834,387

(Rice Millers'	Association Statis November	stics) Aug. to Nov. Incl
Receipts of Rough Rice*		
Season 1936-37	1,761,108	5,729,705
Season 1935–36	1,816,065	5,419,169
Distribution of Milled Rice**		
Season 1936-37	1,109,629	3,408,472
Season 1935-36	883,773	3,029,531
Stocks:	Rough*	Milled**
November 30, 1936	1,482,288	1,356,557
November 30, 1935	2,241,124	737,227

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

and announcements relative to the Agricultural Conservation Program for 1937 and reports that the 1936-37 cotton crops in India and Brazil may be smaller than was indicated by earlier estimates also have contributed to the strength of prices. Estimates for the six states of this District, and for the United States, are compared in the table.

COT	TON PRO 1936 Est		-000 Bale Percent	s 1935	Percent
	Dec. 1	Nov. 1	Change	Production	Change
Alabama	1,140	1,155	-1.3	1,059	+ 7.6 + 3.2
Florida	1,090	1,100	same 0.9	1,059	+ 2.9 + 37.2
Louisiana Mississippi	763 1,910	755 1,900	$^{+1.1}_{+0.5}$	556 1, 2 59	+51.7
Tennessee	431	435	-0.9	317	+36.0
Six States United States	5,366 12,407	5,377 12,400	-0.2 +0.1	4,281 10,638	+25.3 +16.6

Estimated cash income from the sale of principal farm products, including livestock and livestock products, in the six states of this District, was 56 per cent greater in September this year than last, according to figures compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture. The income from crops alone was 69.4 per cent greater than a year ago, but that from livestock and livestock products only 11.4 per cent larger. For the nine months of 1936, total income from crops and livestock exceeded that for the corresponding part of 1935 by 18.5 per cent. The figures are compared in the table.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FROM SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS, INCLUDING LIVESTOCK (In Thousands of Dollars)

September September January-Sept. Incl. 1936 1935 1935 1935 10,535 1,949 14,425 8,642 14,830 7,970 51,450 67,398 73,933 40,330 52,426 59,387 80,493 88,444 50,129 Alabama..... 15,466 \$ 3,637 19,995 15,425 27,472 Florida....... Mississippi..... Tennessee..... 69,436 64,423 62,330 58,351 \$ 412,312 \$ 347,867 90,962 \$ Six States..... \$

TRADE

November sales by 57 reporting retail firms in the Retail Sixth District declined 10 per cent compared with Trade October, but averaged 8 per cent larger than in November last year. November was shorter by three business days than October, however, and daily average sales registered a slight increase. The index number of daily average sales, therefore, after rising only slightly in October when a rather substantial increase usually occurs, showed a further slight rise in November when a small decrease usually takes place. After adjustment for the usual seasonal variation, the index, which had declined in October to 99.8 per cent of the 1923-25 average, increased to 105.2 per cent in November. The unadjusted index is the highest for November since 1928. Stocks on hand at the close of November averaged 4.1 per cent larger than a month earlier, and 9.3 per cent greater than at the same time last year, and the rate of stock turnover, while lower than in October, was slightly higher than a year ago. The collection ratio also declined slightly from October to November, and was smaller than for November, 1935. The November ratio for regular accounts was 36.8 per cent, and for installment accounts 14.5 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. The indexes of daily aver-

RETAIL TRADE IN THE SIXTH DISTRICT DURING NOVEMBER 1936

Based on confidential reports from 57 department stores

	Compar	ison of N	et Sales	COMPARISO	n of Stocks							
	November with		Year to date with:	Nov. 30		5	TOCK T	JRNOVER		Colt	ection R	ATIO
	Same month a year ago	Previous Month	Same period last year	Same month a year ago	Previous Month	Nove 1936	mber 1935	JanNe 1936	ov. Incl. 1935	Nov. 1936	Oct. 1936	Nov. 1935
Atlanta (6). Birmingham (5). Chattanooga (4). Jacksonville (3). Miami (3). Montgomery (3). Nashville (4). New Orleans (4). Other Cities (25). DISTRICT (57).	+20.7 + 7.8 +15.6 +20.2 - 1.2 + 6.1 + 0.5 + 1.0	-14.7 -14.5 -13.3 -29.9 +26.2 -16.5 -19.5 -1.4 -12.7 -10.0	+12.1 +26.9 + 5.3 +17.5 +13.7 + 7.5 + 9.4 +16.4 + 7.3 +13.7	- 9.6 +13.4 + 1.7 	- 8.0 + 7.5 + 0.4 + 7.5 + 10.0 - 2.1 + 9.6 + 7.3 + 4.1	.37 .30 .31 .41 .28 .29 .31 .24	.33 .29 .28 .42 .26 .33 .27 .30	4.24 3.06 3.04 4.22 3.01 3.65 3.56 2.58 3.40	3.95 2.96 3.08 3.81 2.68 2.96 2.69 3.08	27.7 35.5 32.7 28.8 37.5 32.9 32.1	27.4 36.8 33.0 29.8 37.1 34.7 32.6	28.7 35.9 36.3 31.2 42.6 32.3 33.5

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 reported on.

age sales, and of stocks, on page 8, are based upon reports from a smaller number of firms whose figures have been reported over a longer period of years.

A statement by the United States Department of Commerce indicates that daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas in the South showed larger gains over September, and over October last year, than in other parts of the country. The increase over September was 40 per cent in the South, and 27 per cent for the country as a whole, and over October last year the gain in the South was 35 per cent, and for the country 21 per cent.

Life Increases in sales of life insurance from OcInsurance tober to November in Alabama, Florida,
Louisiana and Mississippi were slightly more
than offset by decreases in Georgia and Tennessee. November sales were, however, 9.8 per cent greater in
these six states than for that month last year, and for the
eleven months total sales have been 2.6 per cent less than
for that period a year ago. In the United States as a whole,
sales declined 2.8 per cent from October to November, and
were 3.5 per cent less than in November, 1935. Figures
compared in the table are from those compiled by the Life
Insurance Sales Research Bureau.

	(I	n Thous	and	s of Do	lars	3)		
		Nov. 1936		Oct. 1936		Nov. 1935	Jan 1936	Nov Incl. 1935
Alabama. Florida. Georgia. Louisiana Mississippi Tennessee.	\$	3,914 4,417 5,991 4,691 3,038 5,218	\$	3,781 4,350 6,607 4,157 3,034 5,463	\$	3,334 3,863 6,220 4,173 2,152 5,094	\$ 38,147 52,028 65,864 49,959 26,269 58,009	49,843 70,630 51,827 24,272
Six States United States		27,269 77,569		27,392 91,316		24,836 94,705		\$ 298,096 5,605,655

Wholesale Distribution of merchandise at wholesale in the Sixth District declined 13.8 per cent from October to November, but was 18.1 per cent greater than in November last year, and the index of sales, which is not adjusted for seasonal variation, was the highest for November since 1929 and, except for September and October this year, was the highest for any month since October, 1930. The decline of 13.8 per cent from October compares with a decrease of 11.3 per cent at that time last year. For the eleven months of 1936 sales by reporting wholesale firms have been 17.8 per cent greater than in that part of 1935. Comparisons of reported figures are set out in the table, and index numbers appear on page 8.

WHOLESALE TRADE IN SIXTH DISTRICT DURING NOVEMBER 1936 Based on confidential reports from 79 firms

	NT	Percentage Comparisons ber November 1936 with: JanNov. 1936 I						
	Number of Firms	October 1936	November					
All Lines Combined:								
Sales	79	13.8	+18.1	+17.8				
Stocks	26	+ 0.4	+6.4					
Groceries:								
Sales	18	13.6	+ 2.7	+ 4.7				
Jacksonville	3	— 6.3	- 3.4	-4.0				
Vicksburg	3	-28.3	+29.9	+25.1				
Other Cities	9	11.5	+ 8.8	+ 6.5				
Dry Goods:								
Sales	14	23.3	+17.7	+14.8				
Nashville	3	-28.3	+17.9	+9.1				
Other Cities	11	21.9	+17.7	+16.4				
Stocks	7	5.9	- 0.1					
Hardware:								
Sales	2.5	-12.9	+21.8	+22.7				
Nashville	3	11.8	+ 8.6	+ 9.0				
New Orleans	5	-14.3	+26.1	+33.2				
Other Cities	17	-12.4	+21.7	+19.7				
Stocks	9	+ 3.8	+4.5					
Furniture:		,						
Sales	7	— 7. 0	+83.7	+45.0				
Stocks	5	+21.1	± 12.9					
Electrical Supplies:		,						
Sales	3	1.8	+40.6	+ 47.6				
Drugs:	_							
Sales	7	— 7.1	+12.1	+13.0				

	COLLECTION RATIO*							
	November 1936	October 1936	November 1935					
Groceries	74.7	79.0	66.0					
Dry Goods	39.5	43.0	39.6					
Hardware	45.1	51.7	41.7					
Furniture	46.8	53.1	36.1					
Total	46.7	52.0	45.6					

^{*}The collection ratio is the percentage of accounts and notes receivable outstanding at the beginning of the month which were collected during the month.

EMPLOYMENT

There were further gains in both number of workers and in the amount of a week's payroll at reporting firms in the six states of this District from September to October. Number of workers increased 2.6 per cent, and payrolls 5.6 per cent, over September, and were 13.4 per cent, and 19.3 per cent, respectively, higher than a year ago, and the highest for the recovery period. Gains over September in number of workers ranged from 0.2 per cent in Louisiana to 7.1 per cent in Florida, and in payrolls from 1.4 per cent in Mississippi to 7.7 per cent in Florida. The increases in Florida were largely in wholesale trade (packing and shipping of citrus fruit). In October number of workers was 52.1 per cent, and payrolls 94.3 per cent, greater than at the low point reached in July, 1932.

INDUSTRY

The value of building permits issued at twenty reporting cities in the Sixth District during November declined 18 per cent from October and was the smallest monthly total

BUI	BUILDING PERMITS-NOVEMBER						
	Nu	mber		•	Valı	1e	Percentage Change
	1936	1935		1936		1935	in Value
Alabama							
Anniston	30	24	\$	37,393	\$	85,835	
Birmingham	339	273		190,484		90,340	
Mobile	31	57		53,940		87,853	— 38.6
Montgomery	104	104		87,046		274,425	— 68.3
Florida							
Jacksonville	584	523		506,610		374,754	+ 35.2
Miami	788	1,195	1	,194,760		737,232	+ 62.1
Miami Beach	220	187		850,741		662,582	+ 28.4
Orlando	100	65		233,911		41,216	+467.5
Tampa	170	178		157,099		41,104	
Georgia				• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			•
Atlanta	246	199		465,099		186,460	+149.4
Augusta	41	32		39,545		32,298	
Columbus	92	83		112,668		70,543	
Macon	134	110		93,309		17,730	
Savannah	29	27		57,593		36,855	
Louisiana				,		,	
New Orleans	86	88		254,405		136,501	+ 86.4
Alexandria	66	41		65,210		14,771	
Tennessee	•			,		,	,
Chattanooga	395	338		182.679		313,120	— 41.7
Johnson City	8	3		18,600		1,350	
Knoxville	56	51		102,787		173,962	
Nashville	144	119		85,860		402,800	
Total 20 Cities	3,663	3,697	\$4	,789,739	\$3	,781,731	+ 26.7

since April, but was 26.7 per cent greater than for November last year and larger than for November of other years since 1928. Of the twenty cities, twelve reported increases over October and fourteen reported gains over November last year. Cumulated totals for the eleven months of 1936 amount to nearly 60.8 millions of dollars, larger by 66 per cent than in that part of 1935, and the largest total for the period since 1929. Comparisons for the month are shown in accompanying table.

The value of building and construction contracts awarded in the Sixth District, 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, increased 37.1 per cent from October to November, when they were about 4.7 millions less than in July, but with that exception the largest total for any month since January, 1934. In fact, during a little more than seven years past there have been only four monthly totals larger than that for November. Residential contracts declined in November by 36.8 per cent, but were 63.9 per cent greater than a year ago, and other contracts increased 76.3 per cent over the month and exceeded those for November last year by 48 per cent. Cumulated totals for the eleven months of 1936 amount to \$227,489,431, an increase of 60.8 per cent over the corresponding period last year. For this period residential contracts increased 65.2 per cent, and others 59.1 per cent. State totals show substantial gains over the month in Alabama and Tennessee, but decreases for the other four states. Awards were larger than a year ago in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, but smaller in Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi. For the eleven months' period increases are shown over that part of 1935, except for Louisiana, where there was a slight decrease. Total awards in the 37 states east of

BUILDING AND CONS' F. V	V. Dodge Corpor		WARDED Nov. 1935
Sixth District Total	\$ 28,639,300	\$ 20,896,100	\$ 19,050,679
	4,581,900	7,248,000	2,795,181
	24,057,400	13,648,100	16,255,498
State Totals: Alabama Florida Georgia Louisiana Mississippi Tennessee	9,675,700	3,825,000	1,937,000
	5,660,500	5,907,900	6,246,700
	4,130,300	4,737,100	2,821,600
	1,177,100	4,205,300	4,843,600
	2,418,800	3,939,500	3,801,100
	7,599,900	2,145,400	3,659,400

the Rocky Mountains declined 7.3 per cent, and residential awards declined 14.1 per cent, from October to November, and were, respectively, 10.7 per cent and 72.4 per cent greater than in November, 1935.

According to press reports, the Southern Pine market has continued into December the improvement which has been in evidence in recent weeks, due only in part to the diversion of business on account of the tie-up in water transportation on the West Coast. Retail vards continue to furnish the bulk of the demand, but there is a steady demand from railroads for construction timbers as well as for car material. Recent advances in prices on many items are being well maintained. For the six weeks period ending December 12, weekly reports to the Southern Pine Association indicate that orders averaged 31 per cent, shipments 20 per cent, unfilled orders 25 per cent, and production 0.5 per cent, larger than in that period a year ago. For this period orders averaged 19.5 per cent greater than production, and the ratio of orders to production was 30.2 per cent higher than for that period last year.

Consumption of cotton by American mills declined 3.1 per cent in November, compared with October, but was 22.3 per cent greater than in November last year and the largest November total in twenty years with the exception of 1927. The decline in total consumption from October to November was due to the shorter month, as daily average consumption increased 9.1 per cent. In the cotton states the daily average increased 9.8 per cent over October, and in other states 5 per cent. Consumption in the cotton states accounted for 84.3 per cent of the total in November, 83.7 per cent in October, and 84.1 per cent in November a year ago. Totals for the first four months of the cotton season, August through November, amount for the country as a whole to 2,477,210 bales, and for the cotton states to 2,077,-552 bales, larger by 28.7 per cent, and 28.8 per cent, respectively, than for the corresponding part of the previous season.

Exports of cotton during November declined 19.9 per cent from October, and amounted to 689,815 bales, 39.2 per cent less than the total for November, 1935. The fourmonths total of exports is 2,302,942 bales, and is smaller by 10.6 per cent than exports in that part of the previous season. The value of cotton exported in November was \$46,152,000, compared with \$74,165,000 for November last year, and for the four months of this season it was \$153,383,000, against \$166,978,000 for that period a year ago.

Total stocks of cotton increased further in November by 8.3 per cent, and were 2.3 per cent larger than a year ago. Stocks held at the mills increased considerably over both the previous month and the same month last year.

There was a further increase of 0.7 per cent in active

011111	D STATES—I Nov. 1936		Nov. 1935
Cotton Consumed	626,695	646,499	512,312
Stocks	10,210,658	9,431,056	9,977,908
In Consuming Establishments In Public Storage and at	1,792,250	1,402,916	1,348,830
Compresses	8,418,408	8,028,140	8,629,078
Exports	689,815	861,016	1,134,874
Active Spindles—Number	23,805,520	23,638,270	23,193,538
COTTON GR	ROWING STAT	TES—Bales	
Cotton Consumed	528.513	541,335	430,785
Stocks	9,933,744	9,223,220	9,693,394
In Consuming Establishments In Public Storage and at	1,575,907	1,239,525	1,173,595
Compresses	8,357,837	7,983,695	8,519,799
Active Spindles	17,463,486	17,372,302	17,018,696

spindles from October to November, and an increase of 2.6 per cent over the number active in November last year.

Total consumption of cotton in November amounted in Georgia to 124,825 bales, in Alabama to 69,457 bales, and in Tennessee to 15,134 bales, a total of 209,416 bales for the three states, which was 1.6 per cent less than in October, but 25.3 per cent greater than in November a year ago. Except for October, and for June, 1933, this November total is the largest on record. Because of the shorter month, daily average consumption in these states increased 10.8 per cent from October to November and was at the highest rate recorded for any month in available statistics. Confidential reports from mills in the District continue to show increases in orders, shipments, production and employment over the corresponding period a year ago.

Operations at cotton seed oil mills in this District declined somewhat from October to November, but crushings of seed and production of the principal cotton seed products was greater than in November of other years since 1931. For the season, August through November, receipts of seed at mills in this District have been 27.4 per cent, and crushings 3.5 per cent, greater than in that part of last season, increases in production ranged from 2.1 per cent in crude oil to 14.3 per cent in linters. Stocks of seed and of linters were larger at the end of November than a year ago, but stocks of cake and meal, hulls and crude oil were smaller. Figures for the United States as a whole also show increased receipts, crushings and stocks of seed, and in production, but smaller stocks of manufactured products. Census Bureau figures are compared in an accompanying table.

Electric power production in the six states of this District increased slightly from September to October, and was 24 per cent greater than in October last year. October was the sixth consecutive month to record a new high level in production of electric power. The increase over September was, however, due to the longer month, as daily average production declined. For the ten months, total production was 20.6 per cent greater than in that part of 1935. In October production by use of water power accounted for 63.2 per cent of the total, compared with 49.2 per cent in September, and with 44.9 per cent in October last year.

In the four weeks ended November 28, production of bituminous coal averaged about 3.5 per cent larger in Alabama, but 3.8 per cent less in Tennessee, than during October, but continued substantially greater than a year ago in Alabama because production was interrupted by labor difficulties the first half of that month, and was 12.2 per cent greater in Tennessee. Cumulated figures for the year 1936 through November 28, indicate the production in Alabama of 10,493,000 tons, an increase of 40 per cent over that part of 1935, and in Tennessee 4,516,000 tons, an increase of 21

COTTON	SEED AND COTTON SEED PRODUCTS Sixth District* United States					
		o Nov. 30 1935	Aug. 1 1936	to Nov. 30		
Cotton Seed—Tons:						
Received at Mills	1,449.518	1,137.935	3,481.082	2,754,367		
Crushed	846,174	817,563	2,124,053	1,956,284		
On Hand Nov. 30	609,648	365,905	1,378,955	887,658		
Production:						
Crude Oil, lbs	259,080,234	253,692,686	631.753.036	591,074,013		
Cake and Meal, tons	372,911	361,723	952,933	883,435		
Hulls, tons	222,275	216,046	546,186	503,216		
Linters, bales	202,655	177,267	510,312	432,599		
Stocks at Mills, Nov. 30	1:					
Crude Oil, lbs	19,214,197	19,792,363	62,105,004	68,378,444		
Cake and Meal, tons	59.032	116.521	209,660	315,890		
Hulls, tons	37,944	41,817	143,900	164,775		
Linters, bales	50,632	47,238	164,917	172,510		

^{*}Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

per cent. Preliminary statistics of the Bureau of Mines indicate that November production in the United States amounted to 40,615,000 tons, smaller by 6.2 per cent than the October total, but 21.6 per cent greater than in November last year. Because of the different number of working days, however, daily average production increased 9.7 per cent from October to November, and was 29 per cent greater than a year ago. For the eleven months total production has been 386,490,000 tons, an increase of 15.7 per cent over output in that part of 1935.

Pig iron production in Alabama during November, according to Iron Age statistics, amounted to 192,656 tons, and was 17 per cent greater than in October, 37 per cent greater than in September, and 51 per cent greater than in November last year. Because of the shorter month, daily average production in November was 20.9 per cent greater than in October. Total production in November was larger than in any other month since May, 1931, and the daily average was the largest since June, 1930. Cumulated totals for the eleven months of 1936 amount to 1,742,046 tons, an increase of 57.5 per cent over that part of 1935, and the largest total for that part of any year since 1930. Press reports indicate that the iron and steel markets are "rather quiet just now, after several weeks of heavy buying before the new prices became effective. Blast furnaces and steel mills have large backlogs and high operations are assured for some time to come." The price of pig iron was advanced \$1 per ton the last week in November, the current quotation being \$16.88 per ton. Two additional Alabama furnaces were blown in during the latter part of November, making a total of 15, the largest number since June, 1930, when 17 were operating.

In the United States as a whole, November production of pig iron amounted to 2,947,365 tons, a decrease of 1.5 per cent in total, but the daily average production increased 1.8 per cent, and November production was 42.7 per cent greater than a year ago. The eleven months total for the country was 27,503,760 tons, a gain of 45.5 per cent over that part of 1935.

Substantial increases have been reported in quotations for the various grades of rosin, in recent weeks, and the price of turpentine has also advanced somewhat. Smaller receipts of both commodities than in earlier months of the season, and compared with November of the past sixteen years, were due in part to seasonal influences and in part to the Government's Conservation Program. Press reports indicate substantial improvement in the demand for rosins, and some improvement in turpentine. The average of quotations on the Savannah market for the thirteen grades of rosins on December 12 was \$9.95 per 280 pounds, compared with \$6.07 early in September and with \$4.54 a year ago. Receipts and stocks are compared in the table.

	AL STORES Turpen		Rosin (2)			
	Nov. 1936	Nov. 1935	Nov. 1936	Nov. 1935		
Receipts:						
Savannah	6,684	9,192	30,976	41,325		
Jacksonville	4,869	7,538	28,443	41,263		
Pensacola	2,904	3,371	10,953	13,272		
Total	14,457	20,101	70,372	95,860		
Stocks:						
Savannah	36,552	48,560	89,821	125,952		
Jacksonville	43,246	58,088	72,457	142,466		
Pensacola	30,157	35,977	30,502	65,808		
Total	109,955	142,625	192,780	334,226		

⁽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	Sept. 1936	Oct. 1936	Nov. 1936	Sept. 1935	Oct. 1935	Nov. 1935
Daily Average Sales—Unadjusted						
Atlanta (3 firms)	203.1	211.7	205.6	188.7	175.9	182.2
Birmingham (3 firms) Chattanooga (4 firms)	95.4 82.5	124.8 94.2	121.4 91.9	74.2 78.1	72.2	86.8 81.8
Nashville (4 firms).	87.6	109.4	99.1	81.9	85.7 93.5	89.7
New Orleans (4 firms)	117.7	93.2	103.3	73.4	87.9	94.6
DISTRICT (30 firms)	115.8	118.8	119.9	91.0	97.6	102.6
Daily Average Sales—Adjusted*				ĺ		
Atlanta (3 firms)	201.1	177.9	192.1	186.9	147.8	170.3
Birmingham (3 firms)	98.4	107.6	108.4	76.5	62.2	77.5
Chattanooga (4 firms)	86.8 95.2	76.0 93.5	82.8 86.9	82.2 89.0	69.1 79.9	73.7 78.7
New Orleans (4 firms)	127.9	81.0	86.8	79.8	76.4	79.5
DISTRICT (30 firms)	123.2	99.8	105.2	96.8	82.0	90.0
Monthly Stocks—Unadjusted						
Atlanta (3 firms)	119.2	130.9	111.1	114.0	126.5	131.8
Birmingham (3 firms)	62.4	69.1	75.9	47.7	50.7	81.3
Chattanooga (3 firms)	56.2	55.8	56.1	52.6	56.2	55.1
Nashville (3 firms)	60.1 53.3	65.9 61.1	67.3 66.9	65.6 60.0	72.1 57.8	73.6 61.6
DISTRICT (25 firms)	66.7	73.7	75.6	65.9	69.3	73.9
Monthly Stocks—Adjusted*						
Atlanta (3 firms)	108.4	116.9	98.3	103.6	112.9	116.6
Birmingham (3 firms)	60.6	62.8	67.8	46.3	46.1	54.7
Chattanooga (3 firms)	54.0	49.8	51.0	50.6	50.2	50.1
Nashville (3 firms)	56.2	58.3	60.1	61.3 57.1	83.8 52.5	65.7 56.5
DISTRICT (25 firms)	50.8 62.9	55.5 66.4	61. <i>4</i> 68.1	62.2	62.4	66.6
WHOLESALE TRADE—SIXTH DISTRICT—TOTAL	85.3	89.3	78.7	68.3	74.1	65.7
Groceries (18 firms)	60.5	62.8	54.2	54.6	58.2	52.3
Dry Goods (14 firms)	108.4	105.0	80.6	82.2	90.5	68.4
Hardware (25 firms)	92.0	101.2	88.1	68.1	78.9	72.4
Furniture (7 firms)	101.1	113.6	105.7	70.0 52.0	66.7 48.1	60.1 40.1
Drugs (7 firms)	63.3 104.6	47.1 108.0	43.0 100.3	86.1	93.7	89.5
LIFE INSURANCE SALES—SIX STATES—TOTAL	59.1	65.2	64.9	53.7	60.0	59.1
Alabama	50.8	55.7	57.7	42.8	46.7	49.2
Florida	72.0	73.5	94.6	63.5	76.8	65.3
Georgia	57.4	72.0	65.3	57.1 55.4	68.2 6 3.4	67.8 65.9
Louisiana	66.8 52.1	65.6 69.4	74.0 69.5	47.1	51.8	49.2
Tennessee	56.9	58.0	55.4	53.8	52.8	54.1
BUILDING PERMITS-TWENTY CITIES-TOTAL	55.4	51.9	42.6	31.3	35.8	33.6
Atlanta	19.5	13.2	30.1	12.0	19.7	12.1
Birmingham	12.9	9.9	12.8	10.5 43.1	13.5 51.7	6.1 45.5
Jacksonville	158.4 32.5	50.6 136.1	61.6 13.5	14.0	63.7	63.5
New Orleans	29.3	30.5	19.8	10.4	10.9	10.6
Fifteen Other Cities	70.3	69.7	60.0	47.4	46.6	47.3
CONTRACT AWARDS—SIXTH DISTRICT—TOTAL	77.3	59.5	81.6	35.4	47.1	54.3
Residential	39.9	51.7	32.7	29.4	28.9	19.9
All Others.	102.3	64.8	114.2	39.4	59.3	77.2
WHOLESALE PRICES—UNITED STATES† ALL COMMODITIES	81.6	81.5	82.4	80.7	80.5	80.6
Farm Products	84.0	84.0	85.1	79.5	78.2	77.5
Foods	83.3	82.6	83.9	88.1	85.0	85.1
Other Commodities	79.6	80.1	81.0 97.0	77.8 90.9	78.3 93.6	78.8 95.0
Textile products	94.6 70.9	95.6 71.6	97.0 73.5	71.8	72.9	73.4
Fuel and lighting.	76.1	76.8	76.8	73.0	73.4	74.5
Metals and metal products	86.8	86.9	87.9	86.6	86.5	86.9
Building materials	87.1	87.3	87.7	85.9	86.1	85.8
Chemicals and drugs	81.7	82.2	82.5	80.2 80.5	81.1 80.6	81.2 81.0
Housefurnishing goods	81.7 71.3	82.0 71.5	82.3 73.4	67.1	67.5	67.4
COTTON CONSUMPTION—UNITED STATES	122.3	125.5	121.7	87.2	107.2	99.5
Cotton-Growing States	154.0	158.1	154.4	110.5	134.1	125.8
All Other States	59.4	60.9	56.9	41.0	53.9	47.2
Georgia	156.3	162.8	160.2	107.9	135.8	126.2 165.6
AlabamaTennessee	199.2 162.0	205.0 154.7	202.0 152.1	142.9 103.9	174.7 133.1	118.7
COTTON EXPORTS—UNITED STATES	110.9	167.7	134.4	94.8	138.6	221.0
PIG IRON PRODUCTION—UNITED STATES	91.4	100.2	98.7	59.5	66.2	69.2
Alabama	80.5	70.9	83.0	39.3	44.5	55.0