



Monthly Review

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, APRIL 1957

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DISTRICT BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Employment and payrolls are continuing high. Greater sales of livestock products are contributing to rising farm income at a time when spring planting is getting under way. Consumer spending is generally being maintained at advanced levels. Member bank loans, that had declined earlier in the year, have advanced somewhat in recent weeks. Borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank, on the other hand, have changed little, but excess reserves are higher.

Nonfarm employment in February, seasonally adjusted, remained at about January's record. Both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing employment showed little change.

Factory payrolls in February were practically unchanged, following slight declines in the preceding month.

Cotton consumption, seasonally adjusted, decreased somewhat further in February. **Average hours worked** in textile mills also declined further.

Steel mills continue to operate very close to capacity.

Construction contracts awarded rose sharply in January as a result of increases in both the residential and nonresidential components. Preliminary data indicate little further change in February.

Crude oil production remained unusually high in February, still reflecting emergency increases in coastal Louisiana.

Cash receipts from farm marketings are exceeding those of a year ago, principally because sales of livestock products have increased.

Marketings of broilers, beef, and milk are higher than a year ago; eggs are at about the same volume, but hogs are off.

Output of citrus and vegetables in Florida is exceeding that last year; output of strawberries there as well as in Louisiana, however, is down.

Prices of cotton rose slightly but are holding well below last year's level; prices of peanuts, corn, and rice, however, are higher.

Farm production costs are higher because costs of machinery, fuel, seeds, wages, and feeds have increased.

Furniture store sales in February, seasonally adjusted, increased slightly from January.

Spending in February, as measured by seasonally adjusted debits to demand deposits at commercial banks, increased from January.

New car registrations in January were slightly above the same month a year ago.

Consumer instalment credit outstanding at commercial banks rose slightly in February with gains being made by automobile paper and personal loans.

Department store sales in March, seasonally adjusted, were below February.

Consumer savings, as measured by time deposits and ordinary life insurance sales, increased in February.

Total loans at member banks in leading cities, after seasonal adjustment, advanced slightly in February and in March.

Loans to manufacturing firms and public utilities were substantially greater in March this year than they were in March last year.

Deposits at member banks, seasonally adjusted, declined slightly in February, but preliminary data indicate a rise during March.

The rate of deposit turnover increased somewhat during February.

Borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank in March were practically unchanged from the February level, but excess reserves were higher.

District Oil and a Troubled Waterway

In recent weeks, the Suez Canal has again been in the news, although with fewer banner headlines than when it was blocked by Egypt early in November. We have been reading this time about the results of the less dramatic job of clearing the Canal. Traffic through the Canal will soon be on its way back to its normal job of handling the bulk of crude petroleum transported by tanker from the Middle East to Western Europe. In Iraq, emergency repairs have been made on the pipelines that were blown up during the Israeli invasion of Egypt. Thus, another major route for transporting oil from the Middle Eastern fields to Western Europe is being restored.

It is a long way from the Sixth Federal Reserve District to the Middle East, but with the controversy there disrupting one of the world's major oil transport systems, the oil industry in this area has been affected dramatically in recent months. Here, the industry is centered chiefly in coastal Louisiana and to a lesser extent in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. While the complex political issues have been discussed in world capitals, the District's oil industry has been busy helping to solve the immediate problem of keeping oil flowing to Western Europe.

Action needed in the last few months was of an emergency nature. Western Europe was faced with a 40-percent reduction in its normal daily supply of oil. To help make up this deficit, European countries looked to producers in the United States. As a result, production of crude oil increased sharply in this country, not only to help satisfy European needs, but also to replace oil normally imported from the Middle East by the United States. Recent statements by leaders of the oil committee of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation indicated that American efforts during the crisis have helped to maintain Western European supplies of oil at 85 percent of their normal needs, compared with the 75 percent anticipated when the emergency first developed.

Just what the Sixth District's role has been in meeting these emergency needs cannot be measured precisely, but available data on production indicate a substantial contribution. This was natural, since more than 10 percent of United States crude oil production is in the District. Also, emergency transport facilities could be more readily arranged here than in some other areas where lack of pipelines limits the amounts that can be piped to coastal areas for shipment to Europe.

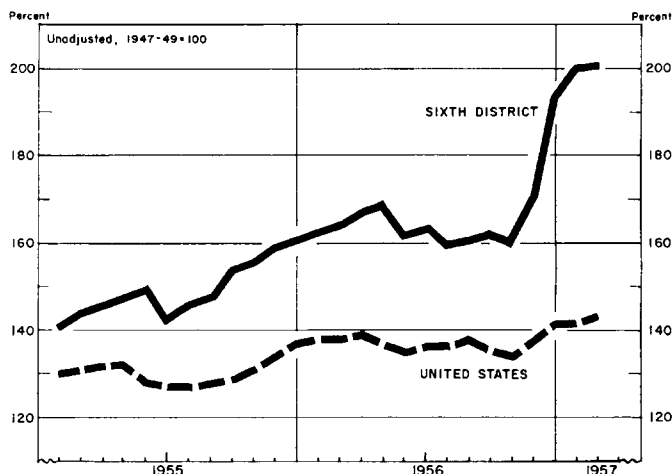
As the chart shows, production in this District spurted tremendously in late 1956 when the pressures of emergency demands were first felt. Through most of 1955 and early 1956, production increased sharply, but it declined somewhat in the summer and fall of last year. Then, production expanded 25 percent from October 1956 to January and February of this year. Production in the country as a whole also increased substantially but less sharply than in the District.

By February, crude oil production in the United States averaged nearly 7.5 million barrels per day—over 500,000 barrels greater than the amount produced in October, just before the Suez crisis. During this same period,

production in the Sixth Federal Reserve District increased substantially—over 190,000 barrels per day. Over one-third of the emergency production increase, therefore, was accounted for by the sharp increase in this District, although the area normally accounts for only one-tenth of total production. Since production changed little in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, the expansion of emergency production in this District was largely localized in coastal Louisiana.

Because some emergency demands were met by drawing on crude oil stocks outside the District, however, production figures tend to overstate the role played by District producers. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the role was important and that the impact on District production was a sharp one. Having played a large part in meeting emergency needs, of course, producers in this area can also expect some reaction as conditions return to normal.

Crude Oil Production
Sixth District and United States, 1955-57



Because of coastal Louisiana's importance to the District oil picture, production is closely related to the amount allowed by that state's regulatory authorities. To prevent wasteful production and improve long-term oil recovery, a maximum allowable production is set each month on the basis of anticipated demand for crude oil. After the Suez Canal was blocked, this amount for Louisiana was increased sharply from an average daily allowable production of 750,000 barrels in October to about 980,000 barrels in February. That increase of 30 percent roughly corresponds with the expansion in output in coastal Louisiana.

Production allowable rose slightly further in March, but because of the prospects of a more normal flow of oil in the Middle East, allowables were reduced about 7 percent for April. The restoration of normal transit will, of course, take place more gradually than the sudden disruption last November. Whatever downward adjustment in District production this might bring about, therefore, should take place over a longer period of time.

PHILIP M. WEBSTER

Bank Financing and the Automobile Market

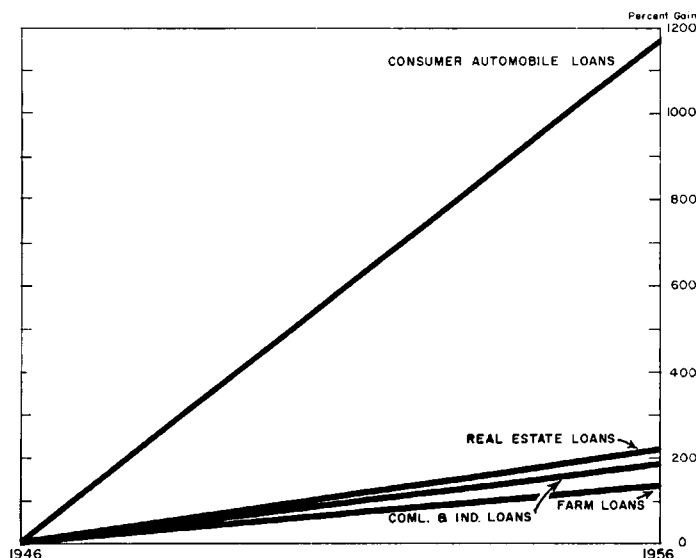
District bankers have a vital stake in the automobile market. Their loan volume and earnings are directly influenced by the ability of the automobile manufacturers and dealers to sell new cars, for automobile loans have become an important segment of bank loan portfolios. Although statistics picturing the 1957 automobile market are not as encouraging as the industry's initial forecasts indicated, a number of current developments may be setting the stage for an upturn in new car sales and automobile loan volume.

Bankers Find Automobile Loans More Important

The number of dollars District bankers have lent, directly and indirectly, to finance automobile sales exceeds the number of dollars they have lent to farmers or to manufacturing and mining concerns. At the end of 1956, consumer instalment automobile loans at District member banks amounted to 310 million dollars. When the credit extended to sales finance companies, about 75 percent of which goes to financing motor vehicles, and the dollars outstanding on wholesale floor plan loans to automobile dealers are added to this amount, it rises to an estimated 450 million dollars.

Member banks in the Sixth District have a slightly larger proportion of their loanable funds allocated to automobile loans than do member banks in the nation. In this District automobile instalment paper accounts for 8.4 percent of total loans outstanding; the national average is 6.6 percent. Banks in Tennessee, with over 10 percent of their loans in automobile paper, have been most active in motor vehicle financing. Louisiana and Mississippi member banks were least active in this field; their ratios of automobile loans to total loans ran 3.9 and 5.4 percent, respectively.

Loans at District Member Banks
Percentage Increase 1946-56, December 1

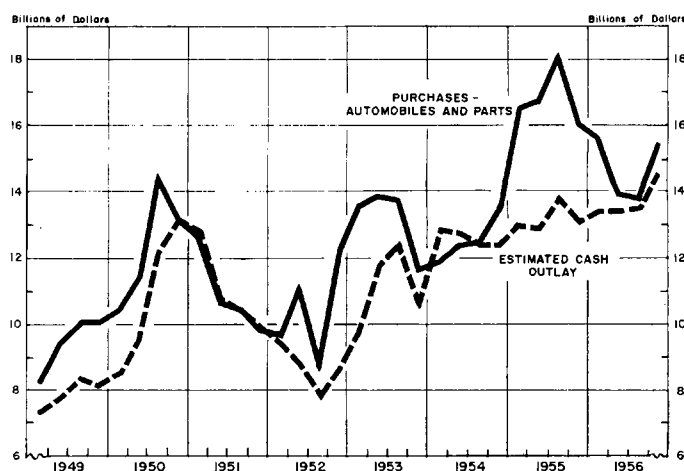


Individual bankers in the past have questioned the advisability of making instalment loans to consumers on automobiles. As the earning power of such loans became apparent, however, many bankers increased their activity in this field, and most bankers today are well aware of the profitable market for funds offered by automobile financing. The growth in outstanding automobile loans since the end of World War II is indicative of this acceptance. Outstandings at the end of 1956 were more than ten times greater than at the end of 1946.

Cyclical Swings in the Market

The status of the automobile market in a particular model year depends largely upon the following factors: (1) new model stimuli; (2) long-run factors such as rising incomes and consumer optimism regarding the future; (3) scrap-page rates; (4) selling efforts of manufacturers and dealers; and (5) availability of credit. In 1955, as a number of industry spokesmen point out, all five of these factors

Spending for Automobiles
United States, 1949-56



worked to push the market in terms of both production and sales to all-time records. The 1955 models of all makers were accepted by the public; both manufacturers and dealers became involved in a keen race for volume; incomes rose and consumer confidence was high; scrap-page rates returned to their prewar average; and financing terms were liberalized and instalment credit was made readily available both by banks and finance companies.

If the first four conditions for a healthy automobile market are met, the fifth condition, the availability of credit and the willingness of the consumer to take on additional debt, becomes more important. Since 1950, the model years in which the number of cars sold rose from the previous year were also years in which credit outstanding expanded and repayments as a percentage of disposable income rose.

The accompanying chart shows consumer purchases and estimates of cash outlays for automobiles by quarters

between 1949 and the end of 1956. Cash outlays are defined as the amount consumers paid for automobiles in cash, in down payments, and in repayment of old installment debts. In certain model years 1950, 1953, and 1955, new credit extensions rose significantly. In the years between these spurts, cash outlays and new purchases were closer together partly because consumers paid off previously acquired debts.

Some observers have viewed this cyclical pattern as evidence that increases in sales based upon liberal credit cannot be sustained and tend to borrow sales in a sense from the next year or so. Others view the pattern as indicating consumers as a group discipline themselves and are reluctant to make new installment purchases until payments on old debts are brought down to lower proportions of family budgets. Still others claim the cycle is tied more closely to new car styles than to credit.

1957 Market Still Uncertain

At present, uncertainties cloud the automobile market. Production of new units continues to exceed 1956 output, but new car inventories are mounting. Model acceptance by consumers has been favorable for cars of two of the major manufacturers, but some producers are experiencing difficulty gaining acceptance for the 1957 editions. The substantially higher prices being asked for the 1957 models met little consumer resistance through February, but the real test is yet to come. Trade reports indicate that dealers are anticipating a strong spring selling season beginning in April, but memories of 1956 remind them that such an upturn may not materialize.

To some other observers, it appears that the automobile market may be reaching a stage where an upturn in sales is in prospect. Several facts support this hypothesis: A substantial number of car buyers will make the final payment this year on the automobile contracts they acquired during the peak buying months of 1955. The level of durable purchases is much closer to cash outlays today than it has been for some time. The percentage of new cars purchased on credit in December and January was several points below the level of early 1956. Personal income remains high. Consumers are optimistic about the future and plan to purchase new cars at about the same rate as during the past few years, according to the recently released Survey of Consumer Finances.

Sales in the next two months will determine whether the anticipated seasonal upturn materializes and will set the pattern for the 1957 automobile market. During the years 1951 through 1955, approximately 37 percent of new car sales in the nation were made between April and July. Although the rise is not nearly as strong in the spring months in this District as in the nation, some seasonal rise does take place during May, June, and July.

Indications seem firm that if the 1957 styles are accepted, District bankers will be ready to provide the credit necessary for purchases. The terms upon which this money is extended to consumers, however, will probably be watched more closely than they were during early 1955 or 1956. In any event, District bankers should continue to find approximately one out of every eight dollars they lend tied to automobile sales.

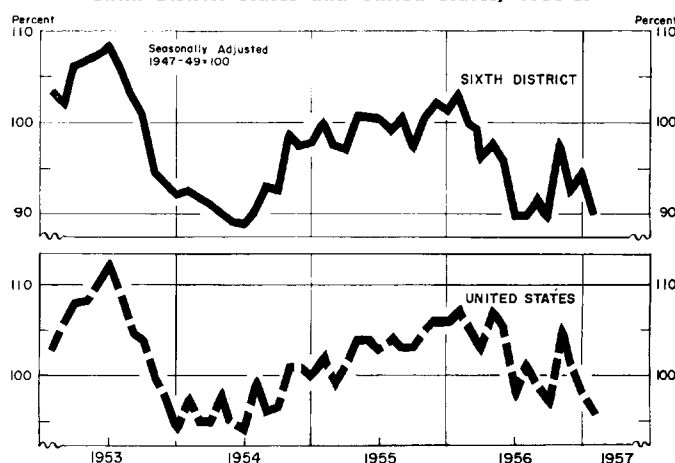
LEON T. KENDALL

Softness in Cotton Textiles

Unfortunately, things have not been going as well in the District's textile industry as had been expected late last year. From a relatively high point near the end of 1955, activity declined in the first half of 1956. The industry optimistically looked for recovery from the low mark reached last summer, but despite some promise of revival in the last quarter of 1956, the recovery faltered.

This picture is shown by the data on cotton consumption, the most frequently used index of activity in the cotton textile industry. Cotton consumption also declined outside the Sixth District, bringing textile activity for the country down almost to the recessionary low of 1954. An upturn would be especially important in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, where the District's textile industry is concentrated.

Cotton Consumption
Sixth District States and United States, 1953-57



The cutback in textile activity brought a slight reduction in seasonally adjusted mill employment as well as a shorter average work week. Recent price behavior also reflects the general weakness of textiles. Prices increased last October, but with production declining since then and mills anxious for additional business, the increases were erased by a subsequent steady downtrend. By late February, the price of print cloth had dropped below the price existing before the October increases. Mill margins decreased, meanwhile, largely as a result of declining prices of cotton products, but also because slightly higher cotton prices increased the cost of raw materials.

In spite of the currently disappointing picture, observers see the possibility of a spring revival because there have been reported increases in mill inquiries, steady deliveries of sales yarns, and substantial bookings by hosiery mills. In addition, automobile production though down from earlier in the year is expected to remain well above the sharply reduced levels of last spring, and apparel sales have remained high. These encouraging factors, however, have to be weighed against high inventories of textile mill products and reported declines in order backlogs.

PHILIP M. WEBSTER

Earnings Rise at Member Banks

Member banks in the Sixth Federal Reserve District earned more on their capital and resources last year than in 1955, but the greater cost of doing business and higher losses on loans and investments held profit ratios at just about the same figure as in 1955. So great was the increase in stockholders' contributions that the 9-percent rise in net profits for the 378 member banks in operation the full year represented slightly less return on capital than in 1955.

The tendency toward higher earnings but lower profit rates at member banks, which was also evident in 1955, is revealed in the operating ratios for 1956 just completed by this Bank. These ratios are based on banks' earnings and dividend reports for the year, together with averages

of their statements of condition for December 31, 1955, and for June 30 and September 26, 1956.

The increase in the ratio of total earnings to total assets to 3.66 percent from 3.43 percent in 1955 reflected two important developments during the year. First, faced with heavy demands for loans and limited funds with which to grant them, member banks liquidated their Government securities, replacing them with higher-yielding loans. They further drew down their cash assets in order to grant more loans or to buy securities. The shift from Government securities to loans, together with fuller utilization of other cash assets, therefore, raised earnings significantly.

This shift, however, was not without its drawbacks. Government security prices declined during most of 1956 and some banks took sizable capital losses on their securities sales. Although they earned a higher rate on the securities they held, net losses on securities rose from .17 percent of total securities in 1955 to .27 percent in 1956. Moreover, the earning rate on loans, which had advanced appreciably in 1955, held steady during 1956.

Because of the increase in loans relative to other assets, member banks ended the year in a much less liquid position. The ratio of Government securities and cash assets to total assets declined from 57.3 percent in 1955 to 54.8 percent in 1956, the lowest ratio since World War II. Some banks will undoubtedly hesitate before making further reductions in their holdings of securities.

As in other recent years earnings on loans supplied the bulk of total earnings. The proportion in 1956, which was 59.6 percent, was about the same as in the preceding year. Interest on Government securities increased from 21.8 percent of total earnings in 1955 to 22.2 percent in 1956.

After payment of taxes amounting to 8.7 percent of total earnings, member banks were left 17.3 percent to disburse to stockholders or to strengthen capital positions. In 1955 net profits after taxes amounted to 18.5 percent. The rate of return on capital averaged 8.4 percent in 1956 only slightly less than the 8.5 percent earned in 1955.

W. M. DAVIS

Bank Announcements

On March 29 the Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Sylacauga, Sylacauga, Alabama, opened for business as a member of the Federal Reserve System. Officers are W. H. McKinnon, Chairman of the Board; A. Hayes Smith, President; and J. B. Boykin, Vice President and Cashier. Capital stock totals \$100,000 and surplus \$50,000.

On April 1 the Austell Bank at Austell, Georgia, began to remit at par for checks drawn on it when received from the Federal Reserve Bank. The bank's officers are J. G. Lundy, President; Florence Murray Childs, Vice President; J. T. Thomason, Vice President; and Walter M. Mills, Cashier. It has capital stock of \$100,000 and surplus and undivided profits of \$80,000.

Average Operating Ratios of all Member Banks in the Sixth Federal Reserve District

SUMMARY RATIOS:	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Percentage of total capital accounts:						
Net current earnings before income taxes	16.1	16.4	16.3	15.5	16.2	16.9
Profits before income taxes	13.8	14.1	14.2	15.1	13.2	12.8
Net profits	9.4	9.0	9.0	9.9	8.5	8.4
Cash dividends declared	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0
Percentage of total assets:						
Total earnings	3.05	3.12	3.25	3.26	3.43	3.66
Net current earnings before income taxes	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.10	1.18	1.23
Net profits . . . . .	.68	.64	.64	.71	.63	.62
SOURCE AND DISPOSITION OF EARNINGS:						
Percentage of total earnings:						
Interest on U.S. Gov. securities	21.2	22.1	23.0	22.4	21.8	22.2
Int. and div. on other sec.	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.0
Earnings on loans	58.5	58.7	58.6	58.8	59.7	59.6
Service charges on dep. accts.	6.9	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.5
Trust department earnings ¹	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.6
Other current earnings	7.4	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.7
Total earnings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Salaries and wages	31.7	31.7	32.0	32.3	31.6	31.2
Interest on time deposits ²	7.6	8.4	9.1	10.4	10.8	11.3
Other current expenses	31.0	31.7	32.5	33.9	34.2	35.0
Total expenses	62.7	63.4	64.5	66.2	65.8	66.2
Net current earnings before income taxes	37.3	36.6	35.5	33.8	34.2	33.8
Net losses (or recoveries and profits +) ³	4.8	4.5	3.8	+ 1.0	3.5	4.9
Net increase (or net decrease +) in valuation reserves . . . . .	...	...	5	1.4	2.3	2.9
Taxes on net income	10.0	11.4	11.3	11.4	9.9	8.7
Net profits	22.5	20.7	19.9	22.0	18.5	17.3
RATES OF RETURN ON SECURITIES AND LOANS:						
Return on securities:						
Interest on U.S. Gov. securities	1.8	1.9	2.04	2.06	2.12	2.46
Int. and div. on other sec.	2.6	2.6	2.67	2.60	2.52	2.52
Net losses (or recoveries and profits +) on total sec. ⁴ . . . . .	.1	.1	.08	+ .27	.17	.27
Return on loans:						
Earnings on loans	6.0	6.3	6.30	6.19	6.35	6.35
Net losses (or net recoveries +) on loans ⁵ . . . . .	.1	.1	.20	.17	.10	.15
DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS:						
Percentage of total assets:						
U. S. Government securities	33.3	33.9	33.9	33.4	33.0	31.4
Other securities	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.6	9.0
Loans	30.4	29.8	30.8	31.5	32.8	34.8
Cash assets	27.1	27.5	26.2	25.8	24.3	23.4
Real-estate assets . . . . .	.9	.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2
All other assets . . . . .	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2
Total assets	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
OTHER RATIOS:						
Total capital accounts to:						
Total assets	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.8
Total assets less Government securities and cash assets	20.4	20.1	20.0	19.6	18.9	18.0
Total deposits	8.0	7.9	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.6
Time deposits ⁴ to total deposits	22.7	22.6	23.5	24.8	25.8	26.0
Interest on time deposits ⁴ to time deposits	1.0	1.1	1.23	1.36	1.42	1.62
Number of banks	353	355	358	362	369	378

¹Banks with none were excluded in computing this average. Ratio included in "Other current earnings."

²Banks with none were excluded in computing this average. Ratio included in "Other current expenses."

³Includes recoveries or losses applied to either earnings or valuation reserves.

⁴Banks with none were excluded in computing this average.

Sixth District Statistics

Condition of 27 Member Banks in Leading Cities

(In Thousands of Dollars)

Item	Mar. 20, 1957	Feb. 20, 1957	Mar. 21, 1956	Percent Change Mar. 20, 1957 from	
				Feb. 20, 1957	Mar. 21, 1956
Loans and investments—					
Total	3,412,305	3,362,167	3,309,639	+1	+3
Loans—Net	1,890,760	1,853,125	1,706,536	+2	+11
Loans—Gross	1,924,770	1,887,169	1,734,110	+2	+11
Commercial, industrial, and agricultural loans	1,048,633	1,010,854	947,444	+4	+11
Loans to brokers and dealers in securities	37,535	36,329	35,604	+3	+5
Other loans for purchasing or carrying securities	49,524	49,175	47,778	+1	+4
Real estate loans	170,531	170,096	155,295	+0	+10
Loans to banks	25,347	36,268	9,821	-30	*
Other loans	593,200	584,447	538,168	+1	+10
Investments—Total	1,521,545	1,509,042	1,603,103	+1	-5
Bills, certificates, and notes	478,084	473,525	569,437	+1	-16
U. S. bonds	750,192	745,079	718,893	+1	+4
Other securities	293,269	290,438	314,773	+1	-7
Reserve with F. R. Bank	473,860	481,754	519,511	-2	-9
Cash in vault	50,474	50,709	49,290	-0	+2
Balances with domestic banks	283,840	267,257	278,092	+6	+2
Demand deposits adjusted	2,263,152	2,273,259	2,361,794	-0	-4
Time deposits	726,922	710,722	626,425	+2	+16
U. S. Govt deposits	106,295	57,538	125,305	+85	-15
Deposits of domestic banks	739,358	721,187	700,859	+3	+5
Borrowings	55,050	66,297	37,000	-17	+49

* Over 100 percent.

Wholesale Sales and Inventories*

Type of Wholesaler	Percent Change					
	Sales			Inventories		
	No. of Firms	Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956 from Jan. 1956	No. of Firms	Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956 from Jan. 1956
Grocery, confectionery, meats	19	-2	+1	18	+7	-12
Automotive	43	-5	+34	43	+1	+20
Hardware	12	+4	+4	10	+3	+6
Machinery: equip. and supplies	14	-4	-7	14	+0	-13

* Based on information submitted by wholesalers participating in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Report issued by the Bureau of the Census.

Department Store Sales and Inventories*

Place	Percent Change					
	Sales			Inventories		
	Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956 from Jan. 1956	2 Months Feb. 1957 from Feb. 1956	Feb. 28, 1957 from Jan. 31, 1957	Feb. 29, 1956 from Jan. 30, 1956	Feb. 29, 1956 from Jan. 30, 1956
ALABAMA	+2	-1	+2	-1	-5	-5
Birmingham	+1	-5	-1	-8	-10	-10
Mobile	+2	+9	+9	..	..	..
Montgomery	-7	-6	-3	..	..	..
FLORIDA	-5	+3	+7	+10	+2	+2
Jacksonville	-8	-3	-0	+8	-5	-5
Orlando	-3	-1	+3	..	..	..
St. Ptersbg-Tampa Area	-1	+1	+5	..	..	..
St. Petersburg	+8	+8	+8	-2	+2	+2
Tampa	-10	-6	+3	..	..	..
GEORGIA	-3	-2	+0	+9	-2	-2
Atlanta**	-6	+1	+3	+10	+1	+1
Augusta	+4	-7	-7	..	..	..
Columbus	+8	-14	-12	+1	-16	-16
Macon	+2	-3	-0	+12	+2	+2
Rome**	-2	-6	-6	..	..	..
Savannah	-1	-9	-5	..	..	..
LOUISIANA	-2	+4	+2	+12	+8	+8
Baton Rouge	-2	+20	+23	+34	+28	+28
New Orleans	-1	+1	-2	+9	+4	+4
MISSISSIPPI	-4	-1	+0	+10	-5	-5
Jackson	-8	-6	-1	+6	-6	-6
Meridian**	-1	+5	-4	..	..	..
TENNESSEE	-3	+0	+4	+10	-4	-4
Bristol (Tenn. & Va.)**	+8	-2	+3	+17	+3	+3
Bristol-Kingsport- Johnson City**	+6	-3	+2	..	..	..
Chattanooga	-3	+1	+2	..	..	..
Knoxville	-8	-4	+1	+5	-14	-14
Nashville	-1	+5	+9	+11	-0	-0
DISTRICT	-7	-4	+1	+9	-1	-1

*Reporting stores account for over 90 percent of total District department store sales.

**In order to permit publication of figures for this city, a special sample has been constructed that is not confined exclusively to department stores. Figures for non-department stores, however, are not used in computing the District percent changes.

Instalment Cash Loans

Lender	No. of Lenders	Percent Change			
		Volume		Outstandings	
		Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956 from Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957 from Feb. 1956	Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1956
Federal credit unions	37	-4	+10	+0	+16
State credit unions	16	+11	+23	+2	+13
Industrial banks	7	+1	-1	-0	+6
Industrial loan companies	12	+1	-2	+9	+4
Small loan companies	22	-4	+13	-2	+7
Commercial banks	35	-5	+3	-1	+6

Retail Furniture Store Operations

Item	Percent Change February 1957 from	
	January 1957	February 1956
Total sales	+5	+0
Cash sales	-4	+12
Instalment and other credit sales	+7	-1
Accounts receivable, end of month	-2	+2
Collections during month	-4	+0
Inventories, end of month	+4	+12

Debits to Individual Demand Deposit Accounts

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	Percent Change					
	Year-to-date Feb. 1957 from Jan. 1957			Year-to-date Feb. 1956 from Jan. 1956		
	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956	Jan. 1956
ALABAMA						
Anniston	32,175	37,227	34,475	-14	-7	-2
Birmingham	709,670	720,082	595,882	-1	+19	+13
Dothan	22,118	26,906	22,811	-18	-3	+4
Gadsden	28,711	32,704	26,660	-12	+8	+8
Mobile	294,414	272,587	214,153	+8	+37	+28
Montgomery	122,182	136,992	115,609	-11	+6	+10
Tuscaloosa*	39,055	42,623	37,120	-8	+5	+1
FLORIDA						
Jacksonville	584,381	662,634	537,189	-12	+9	+12
Miami	711,663	794,474	593,083	-10	+20	+22
Greater Miami*	1,102,592	1,262,939	934,565	-13	+18	+21
Orlando	155,483	175,513	130,010	-11	+20	+23
Pensacola	75,259	81,477	68,733	-8	+9	+13
St. Petersburg	147,382	193,103	132,267	-24	+11	+20
Tampa	297,938	338,194	271,346	-12	+10	+15
West Palm Beach*	94,595	115,841	84,772	-18	+12	+13
GEORGIA						
Albany	48,370	59,924	48,795	-19	-1	+7
Atlanta	1,457,373	1,589,159	1,395,032	-8	+4	+4
Augusta	83,278	97,014	87,204	-14	-5	+1
Brunswick	17,272	18,564	16,040	-7	+8	+7
Columbus	88,180	101,859	94,557	-13	-7	-3
Elberton	6,132	8,544	5,432	-28	+13	+29
Gainesville*	40,763	48,973	37,881	-17	+8	+11
Griffin*	14,002	16,247	14,411	-14	-3	+1
Macon	92,295	108,559	96,977	-15	-5	-3
Newnan	15,303	16,671	13,074	-8	+17	+12
Rome*	35,250	41,682	36,592	-15	-4	+1
Savannah	157,495	176,631	136,888	-11	+15	+23
Valdosta	22,723	27,727	22,269	-18	+2	+4
LOUISIANA						
Alexandria*	61,423	72,914	55,869	-16	+10	+13
Baton Rouge	163,017	195,615	143,313	-17	+14	+14
Lake Charles	74,025	90,661	74,910	-18	-1	+9
New Orleans	1,222,617	1,347,345	1,110,366	-9	+10	+13
MISSISSIPPI						
Hattiesburg	28,304	32,134	27,244	-12	+4	+10
Jackson	177,178	208,840	185,706	-15	-5	-1
Meridian	31,748	37,207	33,321	-15	-5	+3
Vicksburg	18,455	18,112	15,646	+2	+18	+11
TENNESSEE						
Bristol*	32,920	36,730	30,802	-10	+7	+15
Chattanooga	243,801	335,485	239,013	-27	+2	+4
Johnson City*	33,471	37,932	32,651	-12	+3	+4
Kingsport*	59,667	65,024	57,488	-8	+4	+6
Knoxville	147,912	179,288	151,810	-18	-3	-2
Nashville	518,547	632,771	510,143	-18	+2	+7
SIXTH DISTRICT						
32 Cities	7,795,401	8,754,003	7,149,958	-11	+9	+11
UNITED STATES						
344 Cities	178,049,000	204,293,000	162,094,000	-13	+10	+9

* Not included in Sixth District totals.

Sixth District Indexes

1947-49 = 100

	Nonfarm Employment			Manufacturing Employment			Manufacturing Payrolls			Construction Contracts			Furniture Store Sales */**		
	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1956	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1956	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1956	Jan. 1956	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED															
District Total	134	133r	129r	121	121r	120r	192	194r	179r				116p	114r	111
Alabama	123	122	119r	110	110	109r	180	176	165r	..	..	..	127p	129	121
Florida	167	167r	155r	166	168r	153r	257	261r	220r	..	..	..	117p	101	117
Georgia	131	131	129r	123	123	124	198	202r	184	..	..	..	119p	118	112
Louisiana	131	129r	124r	102	100r	102r	172	168r	161r	..	..	..	122p	141	104
Mississippi	126	125	124r	124	122	126r	205	197	193r	..	..	..	100p	90	99
Tennessee	120	121	120r	119	119r	121r	189	187r	182r	..	..	..	91p	96	93
UNADJUSTED															
District Total	134	136r	129r	121	122r	120r	194	198r	180r	..	..	..	97p	87r	93
Alabama	122	123	118r	112	112	111r	181	183	167r	n.a.	293	260	107p	90	102
Florida	176	176r	163r	177	176r	164r	278	277r	238r	n.a.	363	260	97p	88	97
Georgia	129	133	127r	123	124	124	200	206r	186r	n.a.	324	257	108p	86	101
Louisiana	129	132r	123r	100	104r	100r	167	173r	156r	n.a.	314	298	105p	115	90
Mississippi	124	128	122r	122	123	124r	198	199	187r	n.a.	301	312	82p	68	81
Tennessee	119	123r	119r	118	119r	119r	187	189r	180r	n.a.	105	156	75p	72r	76

Department Store Sales and Stocks**

	Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956
DISTRICT SALES*						
Atlanta ¹	146p	151	146r	117p	116	117r
Baton Rouge	150	150	142	115	113	110
Birmingham	150	147r	120r	111	105r	89r
Chattanooga	128	132	130	105	96	106
Jackson	133	130	126	100	95	94
Jacksonville	115	126	116r	88	88	90r
Knoxville	128	132	127	92	92	91
Macon	140	151	141	107	107	107
Nashville	144	142	142r	106	97	105r
New Orleans	137	139	125r	103	96	94r
St. Petersburg-Tampa Area	142	128	135	112	105	107
Tampa	162	162	154r	152	142	145r
DISTRICT STOCKS*	136	136	139r	109	112	111r
	164p	162r	165r	162p	149r	163r

¹To permit publication of figures for this city, a special sample has been constructed that is not confined exclusively to department stores. Figures for non-department stores, however, are not used in computing the District index.

*For Sixth District area only. Other totals for entire six states.

**Daily average basis.

Sources: Nonfarm and mfg. emp. and payrolls, state depts. of labor; cotton consumption, U. S. Bureau Census; construction contracts, F. W. Dodge Corp.; furn. sales, dept. store sales, turnover of dem. dep., FRB Atlanta; petrol. prod., U. S. Bureau of Mines; elec. power prod., Fed. Power Comm. All indexes calculated by this Bank.

Other District Indexes

	Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1956
Construction contracts*	..	..	..	n.a.	296	263
Residential	..	..	..	n.a.	298	305
Other	..	..	..	n.a.	295	231
Petrol. prod. in Coastal Louisiana and Mississippi**	197	196	162r	200	200	164r
Cotton consumption**	n.a.	90	100	n.a.	93	106
Furniture store stocks*	118p	112	105	115p	110	102
Turnover of demand deposits*	23.4	22.9	21.9	23.2	23.6	21.7
10 leading cities	24.9	24.2	22.8	25.1	25.4	23.0
Outside 10 leading cities	19.0	18.9	18.9	18.4	19.3	18.3
	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1956	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1956	Jan. 1956
Elec. power prod., total****	..	..	..	n.a.	295	297
Mfg. emp. by type						
Apparel	171	168r	170r	170	171r	168r
Chemicals	132	132r	130r	133	133r	131r
Fabricated metals	165	164r	157r	167	170r	158r
Food	117	114r	113r	115	120r	112r
Lbr., wood prod., furn. & fix.	84	84r	87r	84	84r	87r
Paper and allied prod.	164	164r	159r	164	166r	159r
Primary metals	108	110r	109r	109	109r	110r
Textiles	92	92	97	92	92r	97
Trans. equip.	213	214r	192r	213	210r	192r

p Preliminary n.a. Not available r Revised—Employment and payroll revisions, based on more comprehensive data, not strictly comparable with previously published data.

