# MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

IN THE

## ELEVENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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No. 5

Excellent crop progress, an accelerated movement of cotton, wool and wheat, and the formation of plans for raising a \$50,000,000.00 fund for the purpose of tiding the livestock industry over its present emergency, stand out as the past month's landmarks in the industrial progress of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District. Much encouragement was derived by cattle men and other primary producers in this district from Governor Harding's recent addresses at Dallas, San Angelo, and San Antonio, in which he pointed out the strength of the country's present banking and currency position, and reiterated his belief that the most critical period of readjustment has passed.

The past month has developed no radical changes in the ordinary indices of business conditions in this section. Sales and collections, both in wholesale and retail trade, have shown slight increases over the month of April. Public spending, as measured by checks charged up by banks to individuals' accounts, was 10 per cent greater than in April. Bank clearings and building activities, however, showed slight decreases.

The process of credit readjustment, which did not get fully under way in this district until last October, has continued right along throughout the spring of 1921, despite the seasonal conditions and influences which have always heretofore resulted in a marked credit expansion during the first six months of the year. Outstanding loans of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas to member banks, which on September 27, 1920, had reached the record total of \$118,000,000.00, had, on January 1, 1921, been reduced to \$98,000,000.00, and on June 14th had decreased to \$68,000,000.00, or a net reduction of \$50,000,000.00 since the peak of last fall. The extent and unusual character of this liquidation can be best appreciated by reference to the chart printed on page 6 of this report, where its causes are discussed in detail.

Despite a large exodus of Mexicans from Texas to their native land during the past spring, farm labor in this district is now plentiful at reasonable cost. Harvesting of a large grain crop is now providing employment for a large portion of the idle labor in the larger cities, and labor conditions throughout the district generally are satisfactory and free from unusual disturbances.

#### AGRICULTURE

A decided improvement has marked the general trend of agricultural conditions in Texas since the date of our last report. This conclusion is drawn from reports from all parts of the state, despite the decidedly spotted conditions that are a feature of the situation. The period from May 15th to June 15th was characterized in some localities by continued drouth, and in others by rains and floods that did much damage. Striking an average, however, the farming interests of the state as a whole have greatly benefited from weather conditions prevailing during the last thirty days. This is especially true of West Texas, where copious June rains, alternating with abundant sunshine, have made the present season an unusually propitious one for row crops, pastures, and grains.

The condition of the Texas cotton crop on May 25th was 71 per cent of normal, as against 60 per cent on the corresponding date a year ago. Up to June 1st approximately 80 per cent of the crop had been planted, of which 65 per cent was up. The plant is, on the average, about two weeks late. It is, however, growing vigorously as a result of excellent weather conditions prevailing since May 15th, there being an abundance of moisture in the subsoil with a sufficiency of surface moisture.

Some fear has been recently expressed for the safety of this year's cotton crop on account of the danger from boll weevils, a danger which, it is believed, has been much increased by reason of the mildness of the past winter. Reports indicate that many cotton fields in Central and North Texas are

already badly infested, and it is believed that the damage from this source will be greater than usual this year.

Threshing of wheat is well under way throughout the state except in the late planted area of the Panhandle. The month of May, as usual, witnessed a deterioration in the condition of the winter wheat crop in Texas, which on May 25th was 63 per cent of normal. This represents a decline of nine points from the condition figure of May 1st, due largely to drouth. The heavy rains, however, which visited the wheat belt during the first half of June were in time to benefit approximately 20 per cent of the Texas winter wheat crop, representing the late plantings in the northwestern portion of the state.

Texas winter wheat production for 1921 is estimated by the Bureau of Crop Estimates at 19,019,000 bushels. An oat production of 39,690,000 bushels is also forecast from present indications, according to the Bureau's calculations. The condition of the oat crop on June 1st was 56 per cent of normal. There is an estimated increase of 20 per cent in this year's oat acreage. Corn is reported in splendid condition throughout the state, particularly in the southwest. Increased acreage and favorable weather conditions forecast a heavy yield.

The past month was somewhat unfavorable to fruit in this section, and the condition of the Texas peach crop declined to 50 per cent of normal, indicating a probable production of 1,421,000 bushels.

From Southern Arizona and New Mexico come reports of good progress in the harvesting of wheat and oats, with yields somewhat cut down by drouth prevailing during the latter part of May. Early planted cotton is doing well in New Mexico and Oklahoma, where the plant is healthy and stands fairly good. Late plantings, however, have been slow to germinate in these states.

Summarizing, the present condition of agriculture in the Eleventh District, generally speaking, is encouraging, the principal exceptions to the generally favorable situation being the continued drouth in Southern Arizona and New Mexico, and the crop damage inflicted in certain parts of Texas by locally excessive rains.

Cotton

Movements

April exports of cotton through the port of Galveston exceeded those of March by 20 per cent, and were in turn exceeded by those of May by 50 per cent. The

steady expansion of the cotton movement to Europe during the past few months has been due principally to the increased takings of Germany. Steamship agents at Galveston report that their cotton bookings to Bremen for the months of June and July are heavier than they have been at this season of the year since before the war.

The season's export movement through Galveston since August 1, 1920, has exceeded that of the previous season by 360,000 bales, or approximately 17

per cent. While the export cotton movement from all United States ports continues to run somewhat behind the movement of last season, there was an increase of 100,000 bales in the exports from all United States ports last month as compared with the previous month, indicating a revival of European demand.

Below will be found detailed statistics of cotton movements for the Month of May:

| COTTON MOVEMI                                | ENTS TH<br>GALVES                 |                | THE P   | ORT OF    |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|-----------|
| Gross Receipts<br>Exports<br>Stocks May 31st | May<br>1921<br>284,714<br>244,294 | 1920<br>55,611 | This<br>Season<br>2,779,889<br>2,506,873<br>382,102 | 2,142,511 |

| GALVESTON STOCK STAT    | EMENT           |             |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
|                         | May<br>1921     | May<br>1920 |
| For Great Britain       | 30,634<br>1,849 | 6,573       |
| For other foreign ports | 49,212          | 30,205      |
| For coastwise ports     | 3,000           | 14,200      |
| In compresses           | 297,407         | 145,280     |
| Total                   | 382,102         | 196,258     |

#### SEASON'S RECEIPTS, EXPORTS AND STOCKS AT ALL UNITED STATES PORTS This Last 5.831,975 5,784,716 Receipts to May 31st..... Exports: Great Britain..... 1,511,191 2,876,871 France..... 494,218 530,350 2,005,247 1,672,226 Continent..... Japan-China..... 421,529 800,316 Mexico..... 24,017 512 Total foreign exports..... 4.456,202 5,880,275 Stocks at all U. S. ports .... 1,570,601 1,025,390

Grain

Movements.

Galveston during the month of May amounted to 7,846,388 bushels, which reflects an increase of 2,180,140 bushels over April, 1921, and an increase of 1,170,458 bushels over May, 1920.

Reports of inspectors at the five large grain centers of the district show the usual seasonal increase in grain receipts last month, as will be noted from the comparative table appearing below:

| COMPARATVE GRAIN RE | CEIPTS                               |                                 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Wheat Corn Oats     | May<br>(Cars)<br>5,629<br>271<br>113 | April<br>(Cars)<br>5,176<br>114 |

#### LIVESTOCK

Condition
of Ranges.

June rains replenished stock water
and stimulated a splendid growth
of grass throughout most of the

range country of this district. High temperatures and continued dry weather had endangered ranges and livestock throughout most of the west and northwest section of Texas, and conditions had become particularly critical in the Panhandle. Muchneeded rains, however, visited the entire state of Texas during the early part of June, with the exception of a few localities in Central Texas and the southwestern portion of the state, and as a result of these rains ranges are in fine condition, with grazing greatly improved and cattle rapidly taking on weight.

The continued drouth in Southern Arizona and the southern tier of counties of New Mexico, however, has caused heavy losses of livestock from starvation, and necessitated much feeding. In New Mexico the drouth was particularly severe in Grant, Hidalgo, Dona Ana, and Otero counties, although recent rains in that section have given grass a new start and improved the condition of livestock.

The calf crop in New Mexico is reported to be 70 per cent of the cows, and the lamb crop 75 per cent of the ewes, which is somewhat above the average condition for New Mexico at this season of the year.

In Texas conditions are favorable for the lamb and calf crops.

On the whole, with the exception of southern Arizona, where cattle losses continued and conditions are still critical, sheepmen and cattle raisers are optimistic over the outlook for the future as reflected by present range conditions.

Livestock Movements and Prices. As was the case during the preceding month of April, last month's movement of cattle, hogs, and sheep to southwestern markets was far

below the usual seasonal volume, although receipts of cattle and sheep were the most liberal of any month this year. The calf supply was just twice as large as that of the previous month, and showed a substantial margin over receipts of May, 1920.

More irregularity than usual featured the course of price movements at the Fort Worth market during the month of May. During the first three weeks of the month outside buyers gave the packers considerable competition, and, as a result, prices showed marked strength in all divisions until the last week in the month, when the support from order buyers fell away, and the local purchasers seized the opportunity to force prices to new low levels. While beef steers reached a higher maximum in May than they did in April, nevertheless the month closed with values about \$1.00 lower than the April close. The net loss for the month on cows of good quality

amounted to 75 cents; bulls were down 50 to 75 cents; hogs lost only 15 cents; while the heaviest depreciation was sustained by sheep and lambs, which were sold at an extreme decline of \$2.00.

There was not sufficient trade in stocker cattle to make a really quotable market. At the best time of the month, however, this class of steers and cows were \$1.00 below the top level of prices reached in April.

Calves at first encountered a fairly broad demand, but under an avalanche of receipts which caused the month's supply to exceed all May records for the past eighteen years, the market was badly demoralized, the month closing at a loss of \$2.00 per hundred by comparison with the close of April.

| -      | FORT WOR | TIL IN | Dolocu   | IVIIOIIII | 40       |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|-----------|----------|
|        | May      | April  | Loss or  | May       | Loss or  |
|        | 1921     | 1921   | Gain     | 1920      | Gain     |
| Cattle | 56,641   | 43,217 | G 13,424 | 103,724   | L 47,083 |
| Calves | 21,551   | 11,082 | G 10,469 | 17,494    | G 4,05   |
| Hogs   | 30,257   | 34,384 | L 4,127  | 37,470    | L 7,213  |
| Sheep  | 88,331   | 44,014 | G 44,317 | 88,615    | L 284    |

| COMPARATIVE TOP | LIVESTO      | OCK PRI      | CES            |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Beef steers     | \$ 9.50      |              | \$ 11.25       |
| Stocker steers  | 6.25<br>6.65 | 7.25<br>6.50 | 10.50          |
| Stocker cows    | 4.50<br>8.25 | 5.50<br>9.75 | 9.00<br>13.75  |
| Hogs            | 8.30<br>6.25 | 9.10<br>6.00 | 14.75<br>11.50 |
| Lambs           | 10.00        | 10.25        | 16.50          |

#### LUMBER

Further improvement in the demand for lumber is indicated by statistics for the month of May submitted by 32 southern pine mills in this district, as reproduced below. These figures show that the mills are shipping out a larger volume of lumber than they are cutting. It is evident, therefore, that the reduction in mill stocks, which was noted in our last report, has continued during the past month.

At the close of May the reporting mills had increased their output to a point only 27 per cent below normal. This is quite an improvement over the April record, which was 39 per cent below normal.

The increased demand, which is partly seasonal, has resulted in a resumption of activities by mills which had entirely closed down, and an increased activity by those which were operating on a part time basis. It has also been followed by slight advances in the price of some items of lumber. No substantial change, however, in the price situation has been noted during the past month.

| MAY PINE MILL STA              | ATISTICS            |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Number of reporting mills      | 32                  |  |
| Average weekly production      | 13,468,597 ft.      |  |
| Average weekly shipments       | 14,405,931 ft.      |  |
| Average weekly orders received | 13,993,074 ft.      |  |
|                                | 39,854,390 ft.      |  |
| Average weekly normal produc-  | 30 PFF 000 41       |  |
| tion                           | 18,575,022 ft.      |  |
| Production below shipments     | 937,334 ft. = 7%    |  |
| Actual production below normal | 5,106,425 ft. = 27% |  |
| Orders below normal production | 4,581,948 ft. = 25% |  |

#### PETROLEUM

Eleventh District oil production for the month of May aggregated 11,550,490 barrels. Of this amount Texas wells produced 9,448,099 barrels of oil, having a market value of \$12,475,000.00. Compared with oil production in Texas during May of last year the past month's production represents a decrease of \$14,000,000.00 in value, against an increase of 1,500,000 barrels in volume.

Records for the months of May, 1920, and May, 1921, also bring out an interesting comparison between the respective performances of Texas and North Louisiana fields. The figures show that monthly production in Texas, which a year ago was around 7,000,000 barrels, has increased to 9,000,000 barrels, while the North Louisiana flow has shown a decline from 3,000,000 to 2,000,000 barrels.

Thus far the District's oil production for the year 1921, despite a heavy decline in price and demand, has exceeded its production for the first five months

of last year by 4,116,560 barrels, as shown by the following comparative figures:

|          | (barrels)  | 1921<br>(barrels) |
|----------|------------|-------------------|
| January  | 10,934,061 | 12.746.315        |
| February | 10,473,094 | 11,290,813        |
| March    | 11,132,024 | 12,219,409        |
| April    | 11,024,345 | 11,587,470        |
| May      | 11,714,413 | 11,550,490        |
| Total    | 55,277,937 | 59,394,497        |

Among the developments of prime importance in the drilling results of last month was the bringing in of several wells near the discovery well in the new Louisiana pool near Haynesville. Excellent producers were completed on two sides of the first test, which seems to definitely prove the existence of an important pool, whose dimensions have not yet been fully defined. The further development of this field is expected to be slow, as the acreage is closely held by a few companies who can afford to develop their holdings at leisure and avoid the wasteful and dangerous practice of excessive drilling which in some instances occurs in newly discovered fields where individual holdings are relatively small.

Notwithstanding the fact that the district about held its own in rate of production during the month of May, drilling results for the month reflect the heaviest curtailment of operations of any month during the present year, the total number of producers being only 278, which compares with the April record of 359 and the March total of 395.

|  | OIL PRO                                      | DUCTION                                    |  |                        |  |                       |                                 |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Field North Texas. Central-West Texas Texas Coastal. | Total<br>2,207,022<br>3,847,689<br>3,393,388 | Daily Avg.<br>71,194<br>124,119<br>109,464 | Total<br>2,239,530<br>3,920,640<br>3,251,850 | 74,651 D<br>130,688 D  | Increase o<br>Total<br>ec. 32,508<br>ec. 72,951<br>ec. 141,538 | Daily<br>Dec.<br>Dec. | Avg.<br>3,45'<br>6,569<br>1,069 |
| Totals, Texas  | 9,448,099<br>2,102,391                       | 304,777<br>67,819                          | 9,412,020<br>2,175,450                       | 313,734 In<br>72,515 D | nc. 36,079<br>ec. 73,059                                       |                       | 8,95<br>4,69                    |
| Totals, 11th District                                | 11,550,490                                   | 372,596                                    | 11,587,470                                   | 386,249 D              | ec. 36,980   | Dec.                  | 13,65                           |

| MAY DRILLING RESUL  | TS                                |                      |                     |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Field Central-West Texas North Texas Texas Coastal Texas Wildcats | Completions 106<br>87<br>41<br>17 | Producers 78 58 35 5 | Failures 28 29 6 12 | Initial<br>Production<br>25,336<br>6,960<br>33,288<br>1,670 |
| Totals, Texas   | 251                               | 176                  | 75                  | 67,254  |
|   | 27                                | 16                   | 11                  | 8,320   |
| May Totals, District April Totals, District                       | 278                               | 192                  | 86                  | 75,574  |
|   | 359                               | 256                  | 108                 | 97,176  |

| CRUDE O  | L PRICES                                 |
|--|--|
| Texas   \$1.00   Corsican light   \$1.00   Corsican heavy   .50   Texas Coastal fields   .80   All other Texas fields   1,25 | Louisiana (38 gravity and above)   Caddo |

### TRADE

Wholesale
Trade.
The downward movement of wholesale prices in this district was sharply arrested during the past

month, according to figures furnished by our reporting firms. The preceding month had witnessed sweeping revisions in all reporting lines, especially drugs, but for the month of May prices remained stationary in drugs, hardware, furniture, and farm implements, showing only nominal decreases in dry goods and groceries.

The month of May developed a more active demand for hardware, dry goods, farm implements, and groceries in wholesale channels, there being a slight falling off in sales of drugs and furniture.

The volume of stocks in wholesalers' hands at the close of the month, though valued at approximately 40 per cent less on the present scale of prices than was reflected by inventories a year ago, was physically about equal to stocks carried at this season of last year, with the exception of the furniture line, in which, despite a price decline of 32 per cent, there has been an increase of 40 per cent in stocks on hand, measured by values.

Dry goods dealers report improved demand for staple goods, and the appearance of a cautious inquiry for fall merchandise. Immediate wants of retailers, however, continue to control trade. Prices are firm with a tendency to stiffen in some lines. Although retailers assert that their trade is somewhat dull just now, wholesale collections during the past month have been coming in at an excellent rate, according to reports of representative houses.

Wholesale drug houses state that the past month's buying demand and price tendency has been steady, and assert that prices of most drug items (which they say had never reached the relatively high levels of other lines) have now been reduced to a normal basis, being about in line with the prewar level, and are showing steady tendencies. Comparatively favorable reports have been received by the wholesalers from their retail customers, and collections are reported as satisfactory. The latter condition is partly due to the strict terms of sale which prevail in this line, and to the extremely careful credit policy which it pursues and urges its retailers to pursue. The general outlook in the drug trade is described by our correspondents as very good.

Sales of hardware and farm implements have been, until recently extremely slow, due respectively to the lull in building operations and the straitened circumstances of farmers. Hardware prices have shown a slow and steady decline, being now about 20 per cent below May, 1920, figures. Retailers are said to be well stocked at this time, and only providing for day-to-day needs. Their business, however, according to wholesale dealers, has been running only slightly below the volume of 1920 and considerably above the business done in 1919.

| CONDITION OF WHO                 |                             |                        | DURING MAY,<br>or Decrease in                              | 1921                 |                        |                      |                        |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|                                  | NET SA<br>May, 1921,<br>wit | compared               | NET SALES Jan 1st to date, compared with same period, 1920 | May, 1921,<br>wit    | compared               | May, 1921,<br>wit    | compared<br>h          |
| Groceries                        | May<br>1920<br>33.8         | April<br>1921<br>+ .6  | -40.5  | May<br>1920<br>—29.7 | April<br>1921<br>—11.8 | May<br>1920<br>—35.2 | April<br>1921<br>— 1.8 |
| Drugs<br>Dry Goods               | -29.7<br>-23.3              | $\frac{-6.2}{+2.2}$    | —28.6<br>—48.2   | —39.2<br>—39.0       | — 7.9<br>— .9          | -50.0                | - 2.1                  |
| HardwareFarm ImplementsFurniture | -45.4<br>-83.0<br>-38.1     | $+7.3 \\ +6.3 \\ -3.3$ | -41.8<br>-83.4<br>-49.9                                    | -46.2<br>+40.3       | $-\frac{3.1}{7.2}$     | -11.5<br>-32.5       | None                   |

Retail Reports received from nineteen
Trade. Texas department stores for the
month of May show an increase of
6 per cent in net sales for that month as compared

with the previous month.

While sales for May, 1921, were 17 per cent below those of May, 1920, the shrinkage is more than accounted for by the lower scale of prices now prevailing. In fact those stores which keep a record of the number of their transactions say that the volume of transactions has been greater this spring than during the spring of 1920. A significant change in the present buying demands of department store customers as compared with a year ago is the marked increase in sales of piece goods, particularly ginghams and other cottons, and a corresponding decrease in the demand for ready-to-wear and silks.

This turning to more economical lines of merchandise, and a marked increase in the interest aroused by genuine bargain sales, constitute the two principal characteristics of the present buying movement as contrasted with that of a year ago, according to statements made by our reporting firms.

Sales for the first five months of the year, measured by dollar totals, have been 13 per cent below the totals for the corresponding period last year, but were well above the record for the first five months of 1919, according to information obtained from these stores. There has been but little recent fluctuation in the volume of stock goods, which by comparison with those carried last year are now about 20 per cent less in value, though this is largely accounted for by price revisions that have occurred since May, 1920.

| Net Sales—  BUSINESS OF DEPA   | RTMENT STORES                                   |
|--|---|
| May, 1921, compared with May, 1920<br>May, 1921, compared with April, 1921                                       | Increase or Decrease                            |
| Net Sales— January 1st to date compared with same period 1920 Stocks at end of May, 1921—                        |   |
| Compared with same month, 1920   | -21.0% $-3.4%$                                  |
| Ratio of outstanding orders to last year's purchases. Ratio of May collections to Accounts Receivable due and ou | 407.5%<br>4.4%<br>tstanding May 1st, 1921 47.1% |

#### FINANCIAL

Operations of A further reduction of \$3,696,553.61

Federal Reserve in the volume of our outstanding loans to member banks, which was accomplished during the past

month, brought the total down to \$69,707,332.74 on May 31st, distributed as follows:

Member bank collateral notes (secured by government obligations) \$12,815,454.89

All other loans to member banks, including rediscounts 56,720,971.15

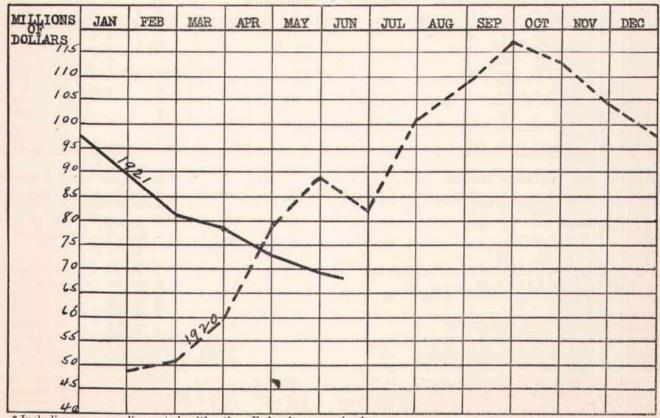
Open market purchases of bankers' acceptances 170,906.70

Total outstanding loans to member banks \$69,707,332.74

In contrast with this reduction of bank loans durthe month just past, there was, during the corresponding month last year, a net expansion amounting to \$10,600,000.00. This contrast, which in fact has been in evidence for several months, is graphically depicted in the following chart, showing the comparative movements of our accommodations to member banks in 1920 and 1921.

The curve representing last year's loans to member banks may be said to closely approximate—in kind if not in degree—the normal movements of credit in this section over a twelve-month period. The unusual reduction of member banks' indebtedness during the first five months of the current year—the season when bank loans in this section normally undergo a heavy expansion—is largely attributable to (1) the sale of government securities by member banks, (2) a stricter credit policy on their part, (3) more economical cultural methods used this year by Southwestern farmers, and (4) reduced commodity prices.

OUTSTANDING LOANS\* OF DALLAS FEDERAL RESERVE BANK TO ELEVENTH DISTRICT BANKS AT END OF EACH MONTH, 1920 AND 1921



<sup>\*</sup> Including paper rediscounted with other Federal reserve banks.

Our outstanding Federal reserve notes on May 31st amounted to \$52,762,595.00, which was \$5,364,-050.00 less than the total outstanding on April 30th. Member bank reserve deposits also showed a decrease of \$2,670,172.14, the amount on May 31st being \$42,762,219.98.

Acceptance Market.

It is estimated that on May 31st the total amount of outstanding acceptances, created in this district, was

\$1,491,000.00, of which acceptances aggregating \$1,033,000.00 were drawn against domestic shipments and storage of goods, the remainder being against import and export transactions, the average maturity period for the outstanding paper being estimated at sixty days.

The total amount of acceptances held by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas on May 31st was only \$170,906.70, all of which were based on export transactions. \$150,000.00 of our holdings were executed by Eleventh District banks.

Condition of Selected

Member banks in reserve cities of the district showed no important

Member Banks. changes in their condition at the close of May, compared with the close of the preceding month. The ratio of loans to deposits remained unchanged at 112 per cent. Borrowings from the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank were reduced from \$22,000,000.00 to \$19,000,000.00, being less than one-half the amount of their borrowings a year ago.

| CONDITION STATISTICS OF MEMBER BANKS IN SELECTED CITIES   |               |                |               |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Number of reporting banks U. S. Securities owned Loans secured by U. S. War Obligations All other loans and investments Net demand deposits Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank Bills Payable with Federal Reserve Bank Percentage of loans to deposits | May 25, 1921  | April 27, 1921 | May 28, 1920  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 52            | 52             | 46            |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | \$ 35,803,000 | \$ 37,086,000  | \$ 61,394,000 |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 6,326,000     | 6,570,000      | 10,251,000    |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 215,613,000   | 214,403,000    | 231,867,000   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 197,714,000   | 197,846,000    | 230,948,000   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 22,655,000    | 21,998,000     | 25,805,000    |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 19,515,000    | 22,485,000     | 51,341,000    |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 112%          | 112%           | 105%          |  |  |  |  |  |

Bank Clearings and Charges to Depositors' Accounts.

The volume of public spending as measured by individual debits to depositors' accounts reported by banks in the thirteen larger centers

of the district increased approximately 10 per cent during the month of May. Bank clearings, however, reported by eleven cities, showed a decrease for the month of 2.9 per cent.

|               |                           |                             | BAI           | NK CLEARIN                | GS            |                      |                      |                 |
|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
|               | 34 1001                   | A                           | Inc. or       | 1000                      | Inc. or       | Since Jan. 1st, 1921 | Since Jan. 1st, 1920 | Inc. or<br>Dec. |
| Austin        | May, 1921<br>\$ 5,126,389 | April, 1921<br>\$ 6,272,945 | Dec.<br>—18.3 | May, 1920<br>\$ 6,032,441 | Dec.<br>—15.0 |                      |                      | -23.            |
| Beaumont      | 4,229,243                 | 4,347,745                   | - 2.7         | 6,326,931                 | -33.1         | 24,844,098           |                      | -26.            |
| Dallas        | 96,395,197                | 103,295,148                 | - 6.7         |                           | -34.1         |                      |                      | 35.             |
| Il Paso       | 22,332,323                | 22,654,434                  | - 1.4         |                           | -25.3         |                      |                      | —19.            |
| ort Worth     | 46,503,141                | 47,562,626                  | - 2.2         | 80,562,628                | -42.3         | 261,987,938          | 430,938,515          | -39.            |
| alveston      | 28,483,108                | 25,090,120                  | +13.5         |                           | -7.2          |                      | 146,590,421          | — 0.            |
| Iouston       | 87,913,986                | 90,772,234                  | - 3.1         | 110,305,085               | -20.3         | 490,879,037          | 596,481,542          | 17.             |
| an Antonio    | 29,384,796                | 28,908,003                  | + 1.6         | 33,473,413                | -12.2         | 149,051,151          | 174,049,714          | -14.            |
| hreveport     | 16,021,128                | 16,576,059                  | - 3.3         | 23,446,079                | -31.7         | 85,730,490           | 118,009,620          | -27.            |
| Vaco          | 8,634,301                 | 8,753,746                   | - 1.4         | 11,464,886                | -24.7         | 51,500,925           | 73,898,302           | -30.            |
| Vichita Falls | 9,340,122                 | 10,677,000                  | -12.5         | 27,822,205                | -66.4         | 53,529,455           | 117,255,016          | —54.            |
| Totals        | \$354,363,734             | \$364,910,060               | - 2.9         | \$506,318.687             | -30.0         | \$ 1,968,529,884     | \$ 2,724,389,523     | -27.            |

|   | WEEK ENDINGS |   |     |  |    |  |  |  |
|---|--------------|---|-----|--|----|--|--|--|
| Albuquerque Austin Beaumont Dallas El Paso Fort Worth Galveston Houston San Antonio Shreveport Fexarkana Fucson Waco  Totals, Eleventh District Totals, all reporting cities in United States | \$ 88        | May 25, 1921<br>1,505,000<br>2,969,000<br>2,841,000<br>29,726,000<br>8,644,000<br>17,776,000<br>23,248,000<br>6,516,000<br>6,875,000<br>1,281,000<br>1,916,000<br>3,183,000 | \$5 | April 27, 1921<br>990,000<br>2,007,000<br>2,690,000<br>29,576,000<br>6,708,000<br>15,530,000<br>17,892,000<br>22,109,000<br>5,792,000<br>1,125,000<br>1,167,000<br>3,043,000 | \$ | May 26, 1920 1,654,000 3,079,000 4.467,000 37,704,000 24,868,000 8,604,000 33,430,000 8,409,000 11,755,000 2,040,000 1,814,000 3,650,000 |  |  |

Discount Rates. The table of May discount rates reproduced below, showing the "high," "low," and "customary" charges in effect at the banks of six cities, disclosed

a tendency toward easier rates in bank channels, the number of increases, as compared with the April rates, being exceeded by the number of decreases.

|  |   |         |         |          | M      | AY. | DISCOUNT RATES |        |    |    |         |         |         |      |         |     |      |     |
|--|---|---------|---------|----------|--------|-----|----------------|--------|----|----|---------|---------|---------|------|---------|-----|------|-----|
|  |   | Dallas  |         | 1        | El Pas | 0   | Ft             | . Wor  | th | E  | louston | n       | San     | Anto | nio     |     | Waco |     |
| Prime Commercial<br>Paper:<br>Customers' 30 to               | H | L       | C       | H        | L      | C   | Н              | L      | C  | H  | L       | C       | H       | L    | C       | H   | L    | C   |
| 90 days  | 8 | 7       | 8       | 10       | 7      | 8   | 7              | 7      | 7  | 8  | 6       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 71      | 8   | 8    | 8   |
| months<br>Open market 30 to                                  | 8 | 7       | 8       | 10       | 8      | 8   | 7              | 7      | 7  | 71 | 61      | 7       | 8       | 6    | 73      | 8   | 79   | 8   |
| 90 days<br>Open market 4 to                                  |   | 8       | 8       | 8        | 8      | 8   | **             | **     |    | *  | -       | **      | **      | **   |         | 8   | 8    | 8   |
| 6 months   | 8 | 8 6     | 8<br>64 | 8        | 8 7    | 8   | 8              | 6      | 7  | 7  | 6       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 7       | 8 7 | 8    | 8 7 |
| Collateral loans, de-<br>mand                                | 8 | 61      | 73      | 10       | 8      | 8   | 8              | 6      | 7  | 8  | 6       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 7       | 8   | 8    | 8   |
| months   | 8 | 6       | 7       | 10       | 8      | 8   | 8              | 6      | 7  | 8  | 6       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 7       | 8   | 8    | 8   |
| 6 months   | 8 | 6½<br>7 | 7 8     | 10<br>10 | 8 8    | 8 9 | 8 10           | 6<br>8 | 9  | 8  | 6 7     | 7<br>7½ | 8<br>10 | 6    | 7<br>7½ | 8   | 8 8  | 8   |
| ceipts, Bs/L., etc.<br>Loans secured by<br>Government secur- | 8 | 7       | 72      | 10       | 8      | 8   |                |        | -  | 8  | 7       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 71      | 8   | 8    | 8   |
| ities  | 8 | 61      | 71      | 10       | 6      | 8   | 8              | 6      | 8  | 8  | 6       | 7       | 8       | 6    | 7       | 8   | 6    | 8   |

#### FAILURES

From the figures of R. G. Dun & Company reproduced below it will be seen that commercial failures for the Eleventh District have been gradually de-

creasing, both in number and magnitude, since the first of the year. The business mortality rate is, however, still far above that of 1920, as is the case in other sections of the country.

| COMMERCIAL FAILURE               | 100                                    |   |                       |   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|--|
|                                  | 19                                     | 21  | 1920                  |   |  |
| January February March April May | Number<br>155<br>137<br>98<br>98<br>92 | Liabilities<br>\$ 3,359,871<br>2,117,068<br>2,702,583<br>2,905,847<br>1,851,774 | Number 33 31 19 16 15 | Liabilities<br>\$ 284,096<br>1,830,522<br>203,443<br>100,582<br>168,163 |  |
| Total                            | 580                                    | \$12,937,143  | 114                   | \$ 2,586,81   |  |

#### BUILDING

Construction contracts awarded in May, 1921, exceeded those of the corresponding month last year

by 6 per cent, but showed a decrease both in number and valuation by comparison with the month of April, 1921.

|            | May, | 1921      | May, |           |  |
|------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|--|
|            | No.  | Valuation | No.  | Valuation | Inc. or Dec.   |
| Austin     | 43   | \$ 84,435 | 12   | \$ 43,110 | + 95.  |
| Beaumont   | 143  | 144,998   | 76   | 75,252    | + 92.  |
| Oallas     | 396  | 1.329,661 | 210  | 969.255   | + 37.  |
| Il Paso    | 153  | 408,098   | 102  | 302,550   | + 34   |
| Fort Worth | 114  |           | 241  | 1.085,748 | - 70   |
| Falveston  | 385  | 115.114   | 291  | 51.267    | +124   |
| Iouston    | 657  | 846,341   | 210  | 611,216   | A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH |
| hreveport  | 280  | 386,750   | 195  | 468,360   |  |
| an Antonio | 302  | 549,050   | 176  | 346,900   | + 58   |