

MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW

OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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DISTRICT SUMMARY

THE SITUATION AT A GLANCE Eleventh Federal Reserve District

	March	Change from February
Bank debits to individual accounts (at 17 cities).....	\$909,830,000	+ 11.7%
Department store sales.....		+ 16.2%
Reserve bank loans to member banks at end of month.....	\$ 6,397,473	- 50.3%
Reserve bank ratio at end of month.....	66.6%	+ 8.4 points
Building permit valuation at larger centers.....	\$ 6,946,576	+ 32.5%
Commercial failures (number).....	66	+ 57.1%
Commercial failures (liabilities).....	\$ 925,653	- 31.9%
Oil production (barrels).....	26,525,050	+ 8.6%
Lumber orders at pine mills (per cent of normal production).....	87%	- 5.0 points

Statistical indices of business and industry in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District reflected varied trends during March. Seasonal expansion was noted in department store sales, debits to individual accounts, the valuation of building permits issued at principal cities, the production and shipments of lumber, and cotton consumption, but in each instance, there was a substantial decline as compared to the corresponding month a year ago. The production and shipments of cement during the month showed a large increase over both February, 1930, and March, 1929. On the other hand, the distribution of merchandise at wholesale failed to reflect the usual seasonal expansion and was materially less than a year ago. The reduced demand for merchandise at wholesale may be accounted for in part by the smaller volume of purchasing power of the rural population and in part by the desire of retailers to keep stocks at a low level and to hold purchases at a minimum until raw material prices show a greater degree of stabilization.

Agricultural operations in most sections of the district have proceeded normally, with the advancement of crops well in line with previous years. The persistence of cool nights over a large area has hindered seed germination, has retarded plant growth, and in some instances, has necessi-

tated considerable replanting of cotton. The severe drouth which is affecting a considerable portion of the Western half of Texas is seriously retarding plant growth and seeding operations in that area. The small grain crops have made fair to good progress in most sections, but the crops in portions of West Texas are being affected by the dry weather. While the physical condition of the district's ranges and livestock showed some improvement during the past six weeks, it is still considerably below a year ago. Considerable feeding was necessary throughout March and livestock in some sections have been slow in recuperating from the effects of the severe winter. Trading on the ranges has been slow and prices reflected a further decline.

The past month witnessed a further improvement in banking conditions. Federal Reserve Bank loans to member banks declined from \$12,867,063 on February 28 to \$6,397,473 on March 31, but they had risen to \$8,308,781 on April 15. On the latter date, these loans were \$9,166,452 less than on the same date a year ago. While the daily average of net demand and time deposits of member banks, which amounted to \$846,871,000 in March, was \$41,006,000 less than in February, the withdrawals were met by member banks mostly out of their own resources. The commercial loans of member banks in reserve cities reflected a further decline and these banks have greatly reduced their indebtedness at the Federal Reserve Bank. Discount and interest rates at banks in the large centers have evidenced a slightly easier tone and the rediscount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas was reduced from 4½ per cent to 4 per cent effective April 8, 1930.

The business mortality rate turned upward in March, there being a considerable increase in the number of defaults as compared to both the previous month and the same month last year. The indebtedness of insolvent firms, while substantially larger than a year ago, reflected a heavy decline from the previous month.

BUSINESS

Wholesale Trade

A substantial recession in the distribution of merchandise at wholesale was in evidence during March. While a seasonal expansion usually occurs at this season, it failed to materialize this year and sales were considerably below those for

the corresponding month last year. The decline in business at wholesale was due in part to the reduced consumer demand and in part to the conservative buying policy of retailers. Reports indicate that retailers are not disposed to make purchases beyond actual needs as they are desirous

of keeping stocks as low as possible. Furthermore, they are deferring commitments to await the outcome of the unsettlement in raw material prices. Collections during the month were generally satisfactory.

The demand for dry goods at wholesale reflected a decline of 11.5 per cent as compared to the previous month, and was 27.2 per cent less than in the corresponding month last year. Sales during the first quarter of 1930 averaged 24.3 per cent below those in the same period of 1929. The decline during March was accentuated somewhat because of the lateness of Easter this year. Furthermore, merchants are operating on a very conservative basis and are holding commitments to a minimum. Collections showed a considerable increase over the previous month.

The sales of reporting wholesale farm implement firms showed a further decline of 15.3 per cent from the previous month and were 32.0 per cent less than in March, 1929. The decline was general throughout the district. Due to the reduced purchasing power and the uncertainty of the agricultural outlook, farmers are making as few replacements as possible this year. Collections during March reflected a large increase over February but were slightly smaller than a year ago.

For the fifth consecutive month, the sales of reporting wholesale drug firms reflected a decline as compared to both the previous month and the corresponding month of the preceding year. March sales were 0.3 per cent less than in February and 16.2 per cent below those of March, 1929. Reports indicate that business was somewhat spotty, being generally good in some sections but poor in others. Collections were slightly smaller than in the previous month.

The March distribution of hardware at wholesale evidenced a further seasonal expansion of 4.6 per cent as compared to February but was 20.3 per cent below that in March, 1929. Business appears to be fairly good in those sections where conditions are favorable, but poor in other sections. Collections were approximately the same as in the previous month.

The sales of reporting wholesale grocery firms during

March were 3.4 per cent less than in February and 2.5 per cent below those in March, 1929. Distribution during the first quarter was only 0.5 per cent less than in the same period last year. Prices reflected a downward trend. Collections were slightly lower than in February.

CONDITION OF WHOLESALE TRADE DURING MARCH, 1930
Percentage of increase or decrease in:

	Net Sales March, 1930 compared with Mar. 1929		Net Sales Jan. 1 to date compared with same period last year		Stocks March, 1930 compared with Mar. 1929		Ratio of collec- tions during Mar. to accounts and notes outstanding on February 28
	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	
Groceries.....	-2.5	-3.4	-5	-3.4	0.0	71.3	
Dry goods.....	-27.2	-11.5	-24.3	-16.8	-1.6	25.2	
Farm implements..	-32.0	-15.3	-24.2	-43.9	+ .8	12.7	
Hardware.....	-20.3	+ 4.6	-16.2	+ 1.5	+ 3.1	35.1	
Drugs.....	-16.2	- .3	-18.8	+ 4.5	- 2.6	39.0	

Retail Trade

While the distribution of merchandise at department stores in larger cities in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District reflected a seasonal increase of 16.2 per cent as compared to the previous month, it was 15.2 per cent smaller than in the corresponding month last year. Sales during the first quarter of 1930 averaged 10.0 per cent less than in the same period of 1929. The large decline in March business as compared to a year ago was due in part to the heavy pre-Easter buying in March last year when Easter came at the end of that month, whereas, it came three weeks later this year. The warm weather since the beginning of April, together with the approach of Easter, has stimulated the demand for spring merchandise.

Stocks on hand at the end of March reflected a seasonal increase of 6.5 per cent as compared to those a month earlier, but they were 3.7 per cent less than at the close of March, 1929. The rate of stock turnover during the first quarter of 1930 was .65 as against .70 during the same period last year.

Collections showed some improvement in March. The ratio of March collections to accounts outstanding on March 1 was 35.1 per cent as compared to 34.0 per cent in February and 37.0 per cent in March, 1929.

BUSINESS OF DEPARTMENT STORES

	Dallas	Fort Worth	Houston	San Antonio	Others	Total District
Total Sales (Percentage):						
March, 1930, compared with March, 1929.....	-10.3	-20.6	-20.8	-14.3	-13.1	-15.2
March, 1930, compared with February, 1930.....	+15.1	+17.2	+13.5	+20.4	+17.4	+16.2
January 1 to date, compared with same period last year.....	- 5.9	-13.5	-13.9	-11.5	- 8.4	-10.0
Credit Sales (Percentage):						
March, 1930, compared with March, 1929.....	- 7.7	-15.6	-11.5	- 5.7	- 9.2	- 9.5
March, 1930, compared with February, 1930.....	+11.8	+12.2	+16.0	+30.0	+14.7	+15.2
January 1 to date, compared with same period last year.....	- 2.9	- 5.6	- 7.4	- 5.9	- 2.0	- 4.3
Stocks (Percentage):						
March, 1930, compared with March, 1929.....	+ 3.1	- .1	- 4.7	-14.7	- 8.2	- 3.7
March, 1930, compared with February, 1930.....	+ 3.5	+ 3.6	+ 9.1	+11.9	+ 8.7	+ 6.5
Stock Turnover (Rate):						
Rate of stock turnover in March, 1929.....	.29	.22	.30	.30	.19	.26
Rate of stock turnover in March, 1930.....	.26	.18	.25	.31	.19	.23
Rate of stock turnover January 1 to March 31, 1929.....	.80	.59	.80	.87	.53	.70
Rate of stock turnover January 1 to March 31, 1930.....	.71	.52	.71	.86	.53	.65
Ratio of March collections to accounts receivable and outstanding March 1, 1930.....	33.9	32.8	38.1	37.4	35.5	35.1

Commercial Failures

The report compiled by R. G. Dun & Company reflected a sharp increase in the number of commercial failures during March in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District as compared to the preceding month and the same month last year. The liabilities of defaulting firms were considerably smaller than in February, but were larger than a year ago. There

were 66 failures during the month with an indebtedness of \$925,653 as against 42 defaults with liabilities amounting to \$1,359,396 in February, and 49 insolvencies in March, 1929, owing \$559,130. Failures during the first quarter of 1930 numbered 175 with liabilities of \$3,024,875 as compared to 147 defaults during the same period of 1929 with an aggregate indebtedness of \$2,190,589.

AGRICULTURE

Crop Conditions

Farm work in most sections of the Eleventh District proceeded satisfactorily during the past thirty days and reports indicate that the progress of planting operations compares favorably with the average year. During most of the period the cool nights have prevented proper germination of seed and have hindered plant growth in some portions. In the Western half of Texas, a heavy general rain is urgently needed to permit planting operations to proceed normally.

The condition of winter wheat in Texas on April 1, as reported by the Department of Agriculture, was 80 per cent of normal as compared to 87 per cent on the same date last year and indicates a probable production of 30,700,000 bushels. The actual production in Texas in 1929 totaled 37,800,000 bushels. While the condition is generally good over the Panhandle area, rains would be very beneficial to the crop. The April 1 condition of this crop in New Mexico was placed at 79 per cent with a prospective yield of 2,900,000 bushels as compared to a production of 4,734,000 bushels last year.

The Texas oat crop was reported by the Department as only 70 per cent of normal on April 1 as against 81 per cent on the same date a year ago. The severe winter killed a large portion of the fall sown oats in North and Central Texas but most of this acreage was replanted to spring oats. The spring oats, much of which was planted late, made only fair progress in March, due to the cool weather in the Eastern part of the State and the dry weather in the West. The crop in the Central and Eastern portions, however, has responded to the more favorable weather since the first of April.

The seeding of corn is completed in most sections of the district but the crop has made only fair progress. The frost during the last days of March did some damage and the persistence of cool nights is retarding growth. The planting of cotton is completed in the Southern portion of Texas and has become general in all other sections of the district except in West and Northwest Texas. The condition and progress of early cotton in portions of South Texas is poor to only fair on account of cool nights. Considerable replanting was necessary in portions of Central and East Texas where conditions have been unfavorable for seed germination.

The outlook for peaches in Texas this year is very poor with the April 1 condition of the crop only 40 per cent of normal as compared to 86 per cent a year ago. The trees were damaged severely by the January freezes and much of the fruit was killed by the March frosts, particularly in the large peach growing areas in Northeast and East-Central Texas.

The Department of Agriculture estimated the April 1 condition of the Texas early potato crop as 80 per cent of normal or about the same as in the two preceding years. Plantings were a little early in the South but late in the Northeast. While early vegetable crops in the Rio Grande Valley section of Texas are later than usual on account of the severe winter, weather conditions have been very favorable since the January freezes and crops have grown rapidly. With few exceptions, vegetable crops promise good yields and the movement to market is increasing rapidly.

The appended table, compiled from the report of the De-

partment of Agriculture, shows the acreage which farmers in Texas on March 1 intended to plant to principal crops (except cotton). From this table, it will be noted that it was the intention of farmers to increase the acreage of all crops mentioned with the exception of oats and barley. The smaller acreage in oats resulted largely from the heavy winter killing.

	Intended acreage for 1930	Acreage harvested 1929	Percentage of intended acreage for 1930 to that harvested in 1929
Corn.....	4,941,000	4,533,000	109
Wheat.....	2,927,000	2,710,000	108
Oats.....	1,514,000	1,682,000	90
Grain sorghums.....	3,119,000	2,760,000	113
Tame hay.....	744,000	658,000	113
Barley.....	193,000	203,000	95
Rice.....	202,000	171,000	118
Potatoes.....	36,000	31,000	118
Sweet potatoes.....	120,000	104,000	115
Peanuts.....	180,000	175,000	103
Cow peas.....	125,000	114,000	110

Livestock

The condition of ranges in most sections of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District showed an improvement during the past month. In the Western half of Texas and Southeastern New Mexico, the dry weather has continued, except for rains in some localities, and heavy general rains are needed in these sections to keep the grass and weeds growing. In the other sections of the district moisture conditions are generally satisfactory and range vegetation has been growing rapidly and should soon provide ample pasturage for livestock. Reports indicate that the calf and lamb crops will be good. Trading on the ranges has been slow.

The condition of cattle ranges in Texas advanced 4 points during March to 76 per cent of normal but the condition of cattle remained unchanged. The condition of both cattle and their ranges was considerably below that on April 1, 1929. While cattle generally are thin, they are in a healthy and thriving condition and should improve rapidly with the betterment of pastures. In the drier sections considerable feeding was necessary during the past month. The April 1 condition of sheep in Texas rose 2 points above that a month earlier but was 10 points lower than on the corresponding date a year ago. While there was an improvement of 2 points in the condition of goats, the April 1 figure was 9 points lower than that prevailing on the same date in 1929. Despite the improvement that took place during the month, sheep and goats generally are in poor condition. Heavy general rains are needed throughout the sheep and goat territory. The shearing of goats is practically completed and the prevailing prices for mohair are very unsatisfactory. The shearing of sheep has begun in the Southern areas and is gradually extending northward. Reports indicate that very little wool has been contracted. In New Mexico and Arizona, livestock generally are in good flesh.

Movements and Prices

The receipts of cattle and calves at the Fort Worth market during March were in larger volume than in either the previous month or the same month last year. On the other hand, the arrivals of hogs were materially smaller than in either period. While the receipts of sheep reflected a large seasonal increase as compared to February, they were slightly smaller than in March, 1929.

The demand for most classes of cattle during the past six weeks has been slow and prices reflected a further weakness. Despite the small receipts, the supply of hogs coming on the market has been ample to meet the demand, and prices were

FORT WORTH LIVESTOCK RECEIPTS
(Number)

	March 1930	March 1929	Change over Year	February 1930	Change over Month
Cattle.....	45,155	40,110	+ 5,045	35,710	+ 9,445
Calves.....	12,807	10,301	+ 2,506	12,595	+ 212
Hogs.....	32,975	58,987	-26,012	36,043	- 3,068
Sheep.....	42,519	44,191	- 1,672	24,016	+18,503

Operations of the Federal Reserve Bank

Federal Reserve Bank loans to member banks reflected a rapid seasonal decline during March. These loans which stood at \$12,867,063 on February 28, declined to a low point of \$5,437,128 on March 25, but had again risen to \$6,397,473 on March 31. While the decline was accounted for mostly by the liquidation of borrowings by reserve city banks, there was a slight decline in the borrowings of country banks. Throughout the period, loans were materially smaller than a year ago when the reserve city banks were heavy borrowers. Loans to rural banks are substantially higher this year than they were a year ago. Due principally to the demand from rural banks, loans showed a further increase during the first half of April, amounting to \$8,308,781 on April 15 as compared to \$17,475,233 on the same date a year ago. On March 31 there were 117 borrowing banks as compared to 102 on February 28, and 83 on March 31, 1929.

The bill holdings of this bank reflected a sharp decline during the month due both to the falling off in loans to member banks and to the reduction in open market purchases. Total bills held declined from \$29,236,798.32 on February 28 to \$14,779,537.39 on March 31, distributed as follows:

Member banks collateral notes secured by United States Government obligations.....	\$ 700,950.00
Rediscounts and other loans to member banks.....	5,696,523.45
Open market purchases (Bankers' Acceptances).....	8,378,776.94
Discounts for non-member banks.....	3,287.00
Total bills held.....	\$14,779,537.39

Federal reserve notes in actual circulation amounted to \$35,249,700 on March 31, which represents a seasonal decline of \$4,613,540 during the month. They were also \$2,520,515 less than on the corresponding date of 1929. The daily average reserve deposits of member banks reflected a decline of \$400,566 as compared to the previous month and were \$6,744,578 less than in March, 1929.

Condition of Member Banks in Selected Cities

Reports from member banks in selected cities in the Eleventh District during the four-week period ending April 9 reflected an increase in deposits and in loans and investments. Loans on securities rose from \$108,422,000 on March 12 to \$121,347,000 on April 9, and on the latter date were at the highest point reached in more than a year. All other loans (largely commercial) declined \$2,478,000 during the four-week period ending April 9. During the same period, investments in United States securities rose \$7,075,000 but on April 9 were \$22,560,000 less than on the same date a year ago. The net demand deposits of these banks increased \$7,133,000 during the month,

irregularly lower. Sheep and lamb prices suffered a further decline.

COMPARATIVE TOP LIVESTOCK PRICES
(Dollars Per Hundred Weight)

	March 1930	March 1929	February 1930
Beef steers.....	\$13.25	\$12.60	\$12.00
Stocker steers.....	13.00	14.00	12.00
Butcher cows.....	8.75	9.00	8.25
Stocker cows.....	6.75	8.25	5.50
Calves.....	12.50	12.65	12.00
Hogs.....	10.40	11.15	10.75
Sheep.....	7.50	10.50	8.50
Lambs.....	9.25	17.50	11.00

FINANCE

and time deposits rose \$4,686,000. Their bills payable and rediscounts with the Federal Reserve Bank amounted to \$1,388,000 on April 9, as compared to \$4,710,000 on March 12, and \$9,600,000 on April 10, 1929.

CONDITION STATISTICS OF MEMBER BANKS IN SELECTED CITIES
(In Thousands of Dollars)

	April 9, 1930	March 12, 1930	April 10, 1929
United States securities owned.....	\$ 71,975	\$ 64,900	\$ 94,535
All other stocks, bonds, and securities owned.....	41,357	40,974	39,568
Loans on securities.....	121,347	108,422	104,854
All other loans.....	235,046	237,524	252,473
Total loans.....	356,393	345,946	357,327
Net demand deposits.....	289,495	282,362	300,761
Time deposits.....	147,752	143,066	139,567
Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank.....	33,098	33,827	36,324
Bills payable and rediscounts with Federal Reserve Bank.....	1,388	4,710	9,600

Deposits of Member Banks

During March a \$41,006,000 decrease from February was reflected in the daily average of combined net demand and time deposits of member banks in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District. The daily average of net demand deposits amounted to \$622,558,000 for March, as compared to \$655,119,000 for February, and \$718,066,000 for March, 1929, while the daily average of time deposits for the district was \$224,313,000 in March, as against \$232,758,000 for the previous month, and \$230,965,000 during the same month last year.

DAILY AVERAGE DEPOSITS OF MEMBER BANKS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

	Combined Total		Reserve City Banks		Country Banks	
	Net demand deposits	Time deposits	Net demand deposits	Time deposits	Net demand deposits	Time deposits
Mar., 1929.....	\$718,066	\$230,965	\$292,149	\$132,987	\$425,917	\$ 97,978
April, 1929.....	693,137	231,507	287,987	135,064	405,150	96,443
May, 1929.....	673,097	230,791	280,294	133,013	392,813	97,773
June, 1929.....	643,038	226,110	260,317	129,412	382,721	96,608
July, 1929.....	640,034	230,334	270,274	138,357	369,760	92,477
Aug., 1929.....	629,909	230,643	260,019	137,174	369,890	93,469
Sept., 1929.....	658,520	234,116	266,795	136,950	391,725	97,166
Oct., 1929.....	674,587	225,673	282,630	134,198	391,957	91,475
Nov., 1929.....	668,818	222,773	281,609	132,235	387,209	90,538
Dec., 1929.....	663,839	220,111	279,611	131,879	384,228	88,232
Jan., 1930.....	659,110	225,469	270,951	131,152	388,159	94,317
Feb., 1930.....	655,119	232,758	268,197	136,111	386,922	96,647
Mar., 1930.....	622,558	224,813	252,607	127,887	369,951	96,426

Debts to Individual Accounts

While debts to individual accounts in seventeen cities of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District were 5.8 per cent smaller in March than a year ago, they were 11.7 per cent above the low February figure, and were 5.8 per cent higher than in March, 1928. The aggregate for the past month was \$909,830,000, as compared to the March, 1929, amount of \$966,259,000, and the February total of \$814,543,000.

DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

	March 1930	March 1929	Increase or Decrease	February 1930	Increase or Decrease
Abilene	\$ 9,244	\$ 10,638	-13.1	\$ 9,118	+ 1.4
Austin	23,717	26,010	- 8.8	19,856	+19.4
Beaumont	25,305	28,563	-11.4	30,300	-16.5
Corsicana	6,680	6,711	- .4	5,649	+18.3
Dallas	280,475	271,141	+ 3.4	210,891	+33.0
El Paso	39,082	40,798	- 3.4	41,361	- 5.5
Fort Worth	97,254	107,650	- 9.7	90,844	+ 7.1
Galveston	27,932	39,188	-28.7	28,573	- 2.2
Houston	185,935	211,102	-11.9	179,905	+ 3.4
Port Arthur	10,676	10,873	- 1.8	11,365	- 6.1
Roswell	4,103	3,843	+ 6.8	4,325	- 5.1
San Antonio	85,155	92,279	- 7.7	80,540	+ 5.7
Shreveport	44,402	42,347	+ 4.9	38,109	+16.5
Texarkana*	14,042	15,578	-10.0	12,881	+ 9.0
Tucson	11,851	12,313	- 3.8	9,539	+24.2
Waco	17,554	18,975	- 7.5	16,952	+ 3.6
Wichita Falls	26,423	28,250	- 6.5	24,335	+ 8.6
Total	\$ 909,830	\$ 966,259	- 5.8	\$ 814,543	+11.7

*Includes the figures of two banks in Texarkana, Arkansas, located in the Eighth District.

Acceptance Market

On March 31 there was outstanding a total of \$4,622,717 in acceptances executed by accepting banks in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, while a month earlier the volume

of these acceptances outstanding amounted to \$7,003,513. While the decrease of \$2,380,796 during March was larger than usually occurs at this season, it should be noted that during the preceding five months acceptances outstanding were substantially higher than the average during the same period for several years past. The decline in volume from a year ago amounted to only \$75,608. Acceptances of these banks executed against import and export transactions decreased from \$2,834,578 on February 28 to \$2,537,208 on March 31, but totaled slightly more than on the same date last year. Those based on the domestic shipment and storage of goods totaled \$2,085,509, as compared to \$4,168,935 a month earlier and \$2,223,347 on the same date last year.

Savings Deposits

Savings deposits of 89 banks in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District increased to \$149,855,697 on March 31, which was 1.3 per cent larger than the total on February 28 but 1.2 per cent less than the amount reported by the same banks on March 31, 1929. The increase over February was fairly general throughout the district. There was a greater number of savings depositors on March 31 than there was either a month earlier or on the corresponding date a year ago.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS

	Number of Reporting Banks	March 31, 1930		March 31, 1929		Percentage Change Over Year in Savings Deposits	February 28, 1930		Percentage Change Over Month in Savings Deposits
		Number of Depositors	Amount of Deposits	Number of Depositors	Amount of Deposits		Number of Depositors	Amount of Deposits	
Beaumont	4*	5,469	\$ 2,634,348	5,482	\$ 2,485,250	+ 6.0	5,444	\$ 2,552,893	+ 3.2
Dallas	4	68,851	25,802,667	63,654	25,097,228	+ 2.8	68,513	25,450,468	+ 1.4
El Paso	2	16,289	5,884,442	14,970	6,440,700	- 8.6	16,210	5,987,756	- 1.7
Fort Worth	2	18,385	7,235,312	17,548	7,317,402	- 1.1	18,293	7,220,943	+ .2
Galveston	3	13,809	8,173,557	14,004	9,609,202	-14.9	13,636	7,972,352	+ 2.5
Houston	11*	73,051	34,396,359	74,686	34,773,167	- 1.1	72,584	34,108,492	+ .8
Port Arthur	3	5,701	1,829,947	4,812	1,928,140	- 5.1	5,667	1,770,317	+ 3.4
San Antonio	7	37,134	22,302,945	33,329	21,934,599	+ 1.7	36,492	22,310,562	0.0
Shreveport	4*	22,584	11,885,184	21,303	12,198,131	- 2.6	22,311	11,164,934	+ 6.5
Waco	4	10,322	6,902,698	9,850	6,970,607	- 1.0	10,060	6,963,558	- .9
Wichita Falls	2	3,774	1,897,333	3,760	1,550,196	+22.4	3,810	1,726,972	+10.0
All others	43*	41,658	20,910,405	39,760	21,314,118	- 1.9	41,327	20,767,963	+ .7
Total	89	317,027	\$149,855,697	303,158	\$151,618,740	- 1.2	314,347	\$147,997,210	+ 1.3

*Only 3 banks in Beaumont, 10 banks in Houston, 3 banks in Shreveport and 39 banks in "All others" reported the number of savings depositors.

APRIL DISCOUNT RATES

Prevailing Rates:

	Dallas	El Paso	Fort Worth	Houston	San Antonio	Waco
Rate charged customers on prime commercial paper such as is now eligible for rediscount under the Federal Reserve Act.	5½-6	6-8	6-7	6	5½-6	6-8
Rate charged on loans to other banks secured by bills receivable.	5½-6	5½-6	6	5-6	6	6
Rate on loans secured by prime stock exchange or other current collateral (not including loans placed in other markets through correspondent banks):						
Demand	5½-7	6-8	6-8	6	6-8	6-8
Time	5½-8	6-8	6-8	6	6-8	6-8
Rate charged on commodity paper secured by warehouse receipts, etc.	5-6	8	6-8	6	6-8	6-8
Rate on cattle loans	6-7	6-8	6-8	7-8	6-8	7-8

INDUSTRY

Cottonseed Products

While the operations of cottonseed oil mills in the United States were on a larger scale than in March, 1929, those of Texas mills reflected a large decline as compared to both the previous month and the same month last year. The production of products by all United States mills during the first eight months of the current season was only slightly less than in the corresponding period of the previous season, but that of Texas mills was considerably smaller. Stocks of oil on hand at United States mills on March 31 was 68,875,035 pounds, as compared to 72,565,007 pounds a month earlier, and 75,173,653 pounds a year ago. Stocks of cake and meal and hulls showed a reduction as compared to those on February 28, this year, and March 31, 1929, while stocks

STATISTICS ON COTTONSEED AND COTTONSEED PRODUCTS

	Texas		United States	
	August 1 to March 31		August 1 to March 31	
	This Season	Last Season	This Season	Last Season
Cottonseed received at mills (tons)	1,242,280	1,679,616	4,788,413	4,965,761
Cottonseed crushed (tons)	1,227,827	1,599,936	4,497,770	4,595,715
Cottonseed on hand (tons)	34,395	92,474	330,560	388,079
Crude oil produced (pounds)	361,973,398	473,638,919	1,399,075,211	1,443,123,213
Cake and meal produced (tons)	576,298	750,922	1,997,856	2,068,902
Hulls produced (tons)	329,121	436,860	1,241,815	1,239,102
Linters produced (running bales)	258,584	331,404	927,753	975,208
Stocks on hand, March 31:				
Crude oil (pounds)	24,808,906	22,953,322	68,875,035	75,173,653
Cake and meal (tons)	58,830	51,034	170,184	238,654
Hulls (tons)	32,077	55,332	82,162	120,988
Linters (running bales)	76,824	61,955	262,827	201,363

of linters were slightly smaller than in the previous month but considerably larger than those for the same date last year.

Textile Milling

Cotton consumption and production of cloth at textile mills in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District reflected a seasonal increase in March as compared to the previous month, but were smaller than in the same month last year. There were 2,742 bales of raw cotton consumed in March as compared to 2,493 bales in February and 3,070 bales in March, 1929. The production of cloth was 8.5 per cent greater than in February, but 14.9 per cent less than the output in the corresponding month a year ago. Orders on hand at the end of March were slightly larger than those a month earlier but were considerably below those last year, while stocks showed an increase over both previous dates.

Consumption of cotton at all United States mills during March showed a small increase over February, but was 19.5 per cent below that of a year ago. For the eight-month period ending March 31, consumption reflected a decline of 7.5 per cent as compared to the same period of the previous season. Cotton on hand on March 31 in consuming establishments was less than a month earlier but greater than on the same date in 1929.

TEXTILE MILLING STATISTICS—TEXAS

	March 1930	March 1929	February 1930
Number bales consumed.....	2,742	3,070	2,493
Number spindles active.....	92,952	96,536	93,999
Number pounds cloth produced.....	1,224,891	1,438,729	1,128,970

COTTON CONSUMED AND ON HAND (Bales)

	March 1930	March 1929	August 1 to March 31 This Season	August 1 to March 31 Last Season
Cotton growing states:				
Cotton consumed.....	394,897	479,328	3,351,037	3,569,221
On hand March 31 in—				
Consuming establishments.....			1,309,053	1,257,545
Public storage and compresses.....			3,953,248	2,914,225
United States:				
Cotton consumed.....	508,576	631,669	4,323,617	4,674,034
On hand March 31 in—				
Consuming establishments.....			1,762,627	1,729,998
Public storage and compresses.....			4,189,113	3,176,623

Cotton Movements

Smaller receipts and exports of cotton at the ports of Houston and Galveston as compared to the previous month, due to seasonal factors, were in evidence during March. They were, likewise, smaller than in the corresponding month last year. Stocks of cotton at Galveston were considerably lower than a year ago but those at Houston were larger. The exports of cotton during March totaled 477,678 bales, which was 18.8 per cent larger than in the previous month, but 14.1 per cent smaller than in March, 1929. Exports during the current season have averaged 14.5 per cent less than in the previous season.

COTTON MOVEMENTS THROUGH THE PORT OF GALVESTON (Bales)

	March 1930	March 1929	August 1 to March 31 This Season	August 1 to March 31 Last Season
Receipts.....	55,484	139,660	1,818,324	2,829,194
Exports.....	121,978	208,693	1,596,121	2,492,656
Stocks, March 31.....			297,803	417,237

COTTON—GALVESTON STOCK STATEMENT (Bales)

	March 31, 1930	March 31, 1929
For Great Britain.....	4,500	10,500
For France.....	5,400	5,200
For other foreign ports.....	28,800	33,700
For coastwise ports.....	3,500	3,500
In compresses and depots.....	255,603	364,337
Total.....	297,803	417,237

COTTON MOVEMENTS THROUGH THE PORT OF HOUSTON (Bales)

	March 1930	March 1929	August 1 to March 31 This Season	August 1 to March 31 Last Season
Receipts.....	49,694	78,497	2,548,028	2,758,065
Exports.....	177,696	180,332	1,652,309	1,997,135
Stocks, March 31.....			825,890	654,610

SEASON'S RECEIPTS, EXPORTS AND STOCKS OF COTTON AT ALL UNITED STATES PORTS—(Bales)

	This Season	Last Season	August 1 to March 31 This Season	August 1 to March 31 Last Season
Receipts.....	8,044,109	8,942,845	8,044,109	8,942,845
Exports: United Kingdom.....	1,136,833	1,640,359	1,136,833	1,640,359
France.....	744,056	702,000	744,056	702,000
Italy.....	570,043	532,923	570,043	532,923
Germany.....	1,479,585	1,600,551	1,479,585	1,600,551
Other Europe.....	665,283	770,503	665,283	770,503
Japan.....	841,795	1,118,583	841,795	1,118,583
All other countries.....	333,169	382,100	333,169	382,100
Total foreign ports.....	5,770,764	6,747,019	5,770,764	6,747,019
Stocks at all United States ports March 31.....	1,920,116	1,828,049	1,920,116	1,828,049

SPOT COTTON PRICES—(Middling Basis) (Cents Per Pound)

	March 1930		April 15, 1930
	High	Low	1930
New York.....	16.45	14.00	16.00
New Orleans.....	15.91	13.79	15.40
Dallas.....	15.50	13.60	15.10
Houston.....	16.20	14.10	15.50
Galveston.....	16.20	14.30	15.70

Petroleum

While the total production of crude oil during March showed a considerable increase over the preceding month, on account of the greater number of days, the average daily output of fields in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District declined from 882,489 barrels in February to 855,646 in March. Total production amounted to 26,525,050 barrels, as compared to 24,709,700 in February, and 25,530,200 in March, 1929. There was a slight increase in the number of wells completed during the month but the flush production of new wells was lower than in February. Initial output during March totaled only 119,438 barrels, as against 181,613 during the previous month.

The daily average yield for Texas showed a heavy decline of 28,272 barrels from February, the March average amounting to 814,554 barrels. This was, however, 26,800 barrels higher than in March, 1929. In East Central Texas, the only section to show an increase, the daily average output rose from 23,943 barrels during February to 25,503 barrels during March, and for the week ending April 5 had increased to 30,900 barrels. The rapid and successful development of the new Van area more than accounted for the larger production. Interest and field activity in North Louisiana held up fairly well, but there has been some disappointment caused by the widespread showings of salt water. The daily

average production of 41,092 barrels during March represented an increase of 1,429 barrels over the preceding month, and was 5,292 barrels greater than in the same month last year.

OIL PRODUCTION—(Barrels)

	March, 1930		Increase or Decrease Over February, 1930	
	Total	Daily Avg.	Total	Daily Avg.
North Texas.....	5,283,300	170,429	+ 501,900	- 335
Central West Texas.....	11,963,750	385,927	+ 650,350	-18,123
East Central Texas.....	790,600	25,503	+ 120,200	+ 1,560
Texas Coastal.....	5,191,700	167,474	+ 236,000	- 9,515
Southwest Texas.....	2,021,850	65,221	+ 143,600	- 1,859
Total Texas.....	25,251,200	814,554	+1,652,050	-28,272
North Louisiana.....	1,273,850	41,092	+ 163,300	+ 1,429
Total District.....	26,525,050	855,646	+1,815,350	-26,843

MARCH DRILLING RESULTS

	Com-pletions	Pro-ducers	Gas Wells	Fail-ures	Initial Production
North Texas.....	149	80	13	56	12,251
Central West Texas.....	230	98	18	114	19,265
East Texas.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Southwest Texas.....	63	38	4	21	44,565
Texas Coastal.....	79	59	2	18	41,212
Texas Wild-Cats.....	29	.....	.....	29	.....
Total Texas.....	551	275	38	238	117,293
North Louisiana.....	41	17	10	14	2,145
March totals, district.....	592	292	48	252	119,438
February totals, district.....	525	294	44	187	181,613

CRUDE OIL PRICES

	April 8, 1930	April 9, 1929
Texas Coastal Grade "A".....	\$1.05	\$1.20
North and Central Texas and North Louisiana (44 gr. and above).....	1.44	1.44

Oil statistics compiled by The Oil Weekly, Houston, Texas.

orders received. In the four-week period ending February 22, orders received amounted to 92 per cent of normal production, as compared to 87 per cent for the subsequent four weeks ending March 22. While production was only slightly higher in March than in February, it was the largest for any period since May, 1929. Shipments, which aggregated 84 per cent of normal production during the four-week period ending February 22, rose to 93 per cent for the period ending March 22. Unfilled orders for lumber on hand at 51 reporting mills on March 31, totaled 61,873,000 feet as compared to 66,655,000 feet on the books of 50 establishments on February 22. Stocks on hand on March 22 showed a further increase as has been the case for the past three months.

PINE MILL STATISTICS

(Four-week period ending March 22, 1930)

Number of reporting mills.....	51
Production.....	80,725,000 feet
Shipments.....	80,778,000 feet
Orders.....	75,403,000 feet
Unfilled orders March 22.....	61,873,000 feet
Normal production.....	87,124,000 feet
Stocks March 22.....	303,632,000 feet
Shipments below normal production.....	6,346,000 feet—7%
Actual production below normal.....	6,399,000 feet—7%
Orders below normal production.....	11,721,000 feet—13%

Lumber statistics compiled by the Southern Pine Association, New Orleans, La.

Building

Building operations at leading cities in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District during the month of March reflected a marked increase over February, but there was a general decline from the corresponding month last year. The aggregate of building permits issued during the month, which amounted to \$6,946,576, while 32.5 per cent higher than in the previous month was 20.0 per cent below that for March, 1929. The total valuation of building permits issued during the first three months of the year registered a drop of 20.8 per cent from the first quarter of 1929.

BUILDING PERMITS

	March, 1930		March, 1929		Percentage Change Valuation Over Year	February, 1930		Percentage Change Valuation Over Month	Three Months				Percentage Change Valuation Over Period
	No.	Valuation	No.	Valuation		1930			1929				
						No.	Valuation		No.	Valuation			
Amarillo.....	71	\$ 204,328	51	\$ 224,241	- 9.7	61	\$ 308,826	- 33.8	166	\$ 605,514	133	\$ 600,746	+ .8
Austin.....	87	591,511	105	185,754	+218.4	75	169,376	+ 249.2	291	1,128,357	251	540,881	+108.6
Beaumont.....	164	243,496	218	198,389	+ 22.7	128	136,373	+ 78.6	414	825,532	519	832,861	- .9
Corpus Christi.....	64	210,105	67	280,660	- 19.4	51	51,099	+ 311.2	179	572,871	191	597,201	+ 4.1
Dallas.....	406	795,645	343	1,708,728	- 53.4	306	589,012	+ 35.1	927	1,920,487	886	3,056,203	- 37.2
El Paso.....	149	320,324	119	400,278	- 20.0	124	316,660	+ 1.2	404	857,697	306	835,242	+ 2.7
Fort Worth.....	234	1,183,281	399	1,274,881	- 7.2	207	759,734	+ 55.7	598	2,420,595	894	2,471,457	- 2.1
Galveston.....	150	134,057	199	233,202	- 42.5	142	151,614	- 11.6	372	351,948	499	577,302	- 39.0
Houston.....	370	1,359,488	530	2,267,725	- 40.1	340	1,246,891	+ 9.0	996	3,702,792	1,378	6,392,217	- 42.1
Port Arthur.....	100	154,252	151	550,832	- 72.0	123	106,928	+ 44.3	303	398,927	360	1,022,033	- 61.0
San Antonio.....	344	1,045,090	396	890,345	+ 17.4	320	1,132,455	- 21.1	934	2,912,265	1,081	3,017,763	- 3.5
Shreveport.....	193	166,910	263	211,430	- 21.1	178	111,466	+ 49.7	506	513,681	686	821,232	- 37.4
Waco.....	38	95,407	46	165,519	- 42.4	44	149,284	+ 36.4	105	394,075	121	530,341	- 25.7
Wichita Falls.....	33	442,682	41	110,861	+299.3	19	13,475	+3185.2	69	548,538	102	375,394	+ 46.1
Total.....	2,403	\$6,946,576	2,928	\$8,682,845	- 20.0	2,118	\$5,243,193	+ 32.5	6,264	\$17,153,279	7,407	\$21,670,873	- 20.8

Cement

Production and shipments of cement at Texas mills during March again showed a large increase as compared to both the previous month and the corresponding month last year. There were 694,000 barrels of cement produced, as compared to 482,000 for the previous month, and 527,000 for March last year. Shipments from Texas mills increased from 521,000 barrels

in February to 627,000 in March. For the first quarter of the year production exceeded that of the same period of 1929 by 7.5 per cent but shipments were slightly smaller than a year ago. After dropping to 779,000 barrels at the end of February, stocks again turned upward and on March 31 had reached 845,000 barrels, registering a gain of 89.5 per cent over the same date last year.

PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF PORTLAND CEMENT
(In thousands of barrels)

	March	Percentage Change		January through March 31	
	1930	Over		Number	Percentage Change
	Number	Month	Year	Number	Over Year
Production at Texas mills	684	+45.0	+31.7	1,497	+7.5
Shipments from Texas mills	627	+20.3	+5.6	1,465	— .3
Stocks at end of month at Texas mills	845	+8.5	+89.5	.....	.....

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

(Compiled by the Federal Reserve Board as of April 22, 1930)

Industrial production declined in March while factory employment and payrolls showed little change and wholesale prices continued to decline. There was an increase in construction as is usual at this season. Interest rates continued to decline in the first three weeks of March, but later became somewhat firmer.

PRODUCTION

Production in basic industries declined in March, contrary to the usual seasonal trend. Average daily output of steel, coal, and copper decreased substantially, while output of cotton and wool textiles declined at about the usual seasonal rate. Production of automobiles and lumber increased. For the first quarter of the year, taken as a whole, output of basic industries was considerably smaller than in the unusually active first quarter of 1929 and smaller than in any other first quarter since 1925. In the steel and automobile industries output for the first three months, though smaller than in 1929, was about the same as in the corresponding month in 1928, while in most of the other major industries it was smaller than in either of the two preceding years. Building contracts awarded increased substantially in March as is usual at this season, according to reports of the F. W. Dodge Corporation. In comparison with a year ago a large increase in contracts for public works and utilities was more than offset by a decrease in residential building. Average daily awards in the first half of April were somewhat larger than in March, but continued smaller than a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT

Factory employment and payrolls, which usually increase during March changed little from February and continued to be considerably smaller than in other recent years. The number of workers employed in the automobile industry increased somewhat less than is usual at this season and reductions in employment and in earnings were reported in the iron and steel, machinery, and car building industries.

DISTRIBUTION

Freight-car loadings, which have been at low levels in

recent months, did not show the usual seasonal increase during March. Department store sales continued in smaller volume than a year ago.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices, which began to decline last summer continued to move downward in March to the lowest level since 1916, the decline reflecting chiefly sharp decreases in prices of agricultural products. Prices of imported raw materials, such as sugar, coffee, and silk, fluctuated around the low levels reached in February. The price of silver advanced slightly from the low point reached early in March. In the last week in March and the first week in April, there were advances in prices of agricultural products, especially grains and cotton, while the price of steel declined. On April 15, the price of copper was sharply reduced, and in the same week prices of a number of other important commodities also declined.

BANK CREDIT

At member banks in leading cities total loans and investments increased in the four-week period ending April 16, reflecting a growth of \$184,000,000 in loans on securities and of \$80,000,000 in investments, offset in part by a further decrease of \$186,000,000 in "all other" loans. Member bank indebtedness at the reserve banks and total reserve bank credit declined further between the weeks ending March 15 and April 12, reflecting primarily additional imports of gold from the Orient. In the third week of March money rates in the open market reached the lowest levels since 1924, but in the next three weeks were somewhat firmer. Rates on commercial paper declined to a range of 3¾-4 per cent on March 24, and remained steady at that level; rates on 60-90 day bankers' acceptances were reduced to 2½ per cent on March 20 but later advanced to 3 per cent. Bond yields, after declining during most of March, increased gradually in the first half of April. During April the rediscount rates of the Federal Reserve Banks of Richmond, Atlanta, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Dallas were reduced to 4 per cent, the rate prevailing at all of the reserve banks except New York where the rate is 3½ per cent.