

THE MONTHLY REVIEW

Covering Conditions in the Tenth Federal Reserve District

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

For the Information of Member Banks and Business Interests of this District

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GENERAL stabilization of business in the Tenth Federal Reserve District is still impeded by irregularities and inconsistencies. The reports which are used as data for the preparation of this Monthly Review, however, reflect improvement here and there in several lines of industry, trade and finance.

Distribution of merchandise by wholesalers in March and April is reported in larger volume than in the months of January and February. Buying at retail is good, with lower prices of merchandise as an incentive, and is holding close to the spring record of 1920 in the face of the fact that there is much unemployment and low prices are received by farmers for their products.

Live stock and grain are moving to the market in liberal supplies. The April reports of the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates show that growing wheat passed through the winter safely and was in better condition on April 1 than in the month of December. The low temperatures at the beginning of April, following the Easter freeze, and a recurrence of wintry weather at mid-April, probably caused damage to wheat in some localities, as it also damaged other vegetation and fruit.

The mining industry is still greatly depressed, principally by lack of market demand for products.

Crude oil is flowing from wells in the fields of this district in increased volume despite the efforts to curtail production through a slowing down of drilling operations. The resumption in April of operation of a number of refineries which were closed down in March, is regarded as an indication of increased market demand for gasoline and petroleum products.

The manufacturing situation shows improvement with the advance of spring. Many factories which had been inactive for several weeks are increasing their operations. Cement plants are working larger forces than at this time last year. Flour production is running even or a little ahead of one year ago. Meat packing plants, soap plants, and

boiler and tankage works are running with forces 10% to 30% below the forces on April 1, 1920.

Increased activity in building is reflected by the reports from cities in this district. In March permits for the erection of buildings were 17.9% larger in number than in March, 1920. But the estimated cost of building was 28.3% less than in March last year, indicating that more attention is being given to the erection of homes to relieve housing conditions.

FINANCIAL

Liquidation of loans has fairly well kept pace with deposits, as reflected by the April reports of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and also of its member banks. The seasonal financial requirements are exceptionally large in this district for agricultural, industrial and commercial activities. Bankers are devoting their resources and energies to the situation at home and for the present are putting little of their surplus into acceptances or other forms of investment.

Federal Reserve Bank Condition.—The statement of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, as of April 15, showed gold reserves amounting to \$70,319,003, which was \$5,653,886 less than the total gold reserve reported on March 18, four weeks previous. The reserve position of the bank showed further improvement, the ratio of total reserves to deposit and Federal Reserve Notes liabilities combined being 43.6% on April 15, compared to 43.1% on March 18. Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation were \$90,849,175 on April 15 as against \$96,977,325 on March 18, a reduction in four weeks of \$6,128,150. Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation on the April date under review were \$11,083,200, which was \$663,800 less than on March 18.

Bills discounted, including open market purchases, totaled \$95,957,720 as of April 15 indicating a reduction of \$4,001,010 from the total four weeks previous. Loans secured by Government obligations were reduced in about the same proportions as other loans, while open market purchases were only \$69,000 on April 15, compared to \$239,300 on March 18. There was also a decrease in deposits amounting to \$8,500,935

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in the four weeks' period, the total on April 15 being \$77,807,205.

Member Banks Showing.—Eighty-two member banks, by their reports as of April 8 to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, showed a total of loans and discounts, exclusive of rediscounts, of \$450,898,000, which compares with \$460,675,000 of loans and discounts reported by the same banks on March 4, the reduction in the four weeks' period amounting to \$9,777,000. Net demand deposits on which reserve is computed were reported as \$380,871,000, as compared with \$401,671,000 on March 4. Reserve balance of these banks with the Federal Reserve Bank on April 8 amounted to \$46,942,000 compared to \$45,446,000 on March 4. Time deposits totaled \$100,608,000 in the week of April 8 compared to \$101,132,000 on March 4. It is noted that in the investment item the total of U. S. Bonds, Victory Notes and Certificates of Indebtedness owned on April 8 was \$42,700,000, which is compared to a total of these securities owned on March 4 of \$45,568,000.

Bank Clearings.—Thirty-one cities in the Tenth Federal Reserve District are included in the clearing house exhibit in this issue of the Monthly Review and their reports clearly emphasize the deflation in prices and the contracted volume of business. The total clearings of these thirty-one clearing house associations for the month of March was \$1,421,103,008, which was 36.9% less than the total for March, 1920. For the first quarter of 1921 the clearings were \$4,002,268,147 or 32.4% less than in the first quarter of 1920.

	March, 1921	Pct. Change
Kansas City, Mo.....	\$ 711,115,941	-40.8
Omaha, Neb.	197,537,145	-49.7
Denver, Colo.	131,615,392	-24.8
Oklahoma City, Okla.	108,894,665	83.4
St. Joseph, Mo.	54,308,428	-49.2
Wichita, Kans.	50,894,157	-15.6
Tulsa, Okla.	36,319,711	-40.9
Lincoln, Neb.	18,745,145	-54.8
Kansas City, Kans.	18,295,957	-25.9
Muskogee, Okla.	17,765,699	-21.9
Topeka, Kans.	12,857,864	-21.1
Hutchinson, Kans.	7,548,429	-44.6
Cheyenne, Wyo.	6,311,866	-17.2
Grand Island, Neb.	5,767,973	
Okmulgee, Okla.	4,876,571	-34.0
Joplin, Mo.	4,576,000	-50.1
Colorado Springs, Colo.	4,419,917	-30.4
Pueblo, Colo.	3,935,200	-13.2
Independence, Kans.	3,501,882	
Hastings, Neb.	3,123,379	-52.9
Atchison, Kans.	2,951,328	-39.6
Fremont, Neb.	2,670,443	-52.0
Pittsburg, Kans.	2,492,136	-13.1
McAlester, Okla.	2,097,600	-40.8
Lawrence, Kans.	1,624,158	-26.7
Parsons, Kans.	1,514,827	-23.9
Guthrie, Okla.	1,390,666	-18.9
Lawton, Okla.	1,335,800	-22.7
Miami, Okla.	1,185,566	
Grand Junction, Colo.	882,381	-35.0
Emporia, Kans.	546,782	-57.3

Total, March, 1921.....	\$1,421,103,008	-36.9*
Total, March, 1920.....	2,231,619,972	
Total, Year to date.....	4,002,268,147	-32.4*

*Percentage computed on cities reporting for March of both years.

Clearings through the Federal Reserve Bank for the week ending April 15 totaled \$167,811,240, with

a total of 1,244,977 items handled. These figures compare with a total of \$238,156,764, and 1,105,478 as the number of items handled for week ending April 16, 1920. This indicates a decrease of 29.5% in the volume of money transactions although in number of items handled there was an increase of 139,499 items, or 12.6%.

Debits.—The volume of business in the Tenth Federal Reserve District, as measured by debits to individual account, shows a reduction of 24.1% compared with the record of a year ago. The weekly reports of 16 reserve centers to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and its branches showed a total of debits to individual account in the four weeks ending April 6 of \$958,973,000, against a total of \$1,263,741,000 reported for the corresponding four weeks' period in 1920.

Atchison, Kans.	\$ 5,240,000
Bartlesville, Okla.	9,903,000
Cheyenne, Wyo.	7,027,000
Colorado Springs, Colo.	10,421,000
Denver, Colo.	131,194,000
Joplin, Mo.	8,457,000
Kansas City, Kans.	13,869,000
Kansas City, Mo.	283,888,000
Muskogee, Okla.	19,827,000
Oklahoma City, Okla.	80,249,000
Omaha, Nebr.	171,867,000
Pueblo, Colo.	19,279,000
St. Joseph, Mo.	61,375,000
Topeka, Kans.	14,204,000
Tulsa, Okla.	85,482,000
Wichita, Kans.	36,691,000

Total four weeks, 1921.....	\$ 958,973,000
Total four weeks, 1920.....	1,263,741,000

Failures.—Dunn's Review, in a special report, shows the number of failures and amount of liabilities during March, 1921, and March, 1920, by Federal Reserve Districts, as follows:

District	Number		Liabilities	
	1921	1920	1921	1920
No. 1 Boston	88	54	\$ 8,259,999	\$ 866,304
2 New York	248	139	30,836,832	6,213,228
3 Philadelphia	63	33	1,082,419	644,376
4 Cleveland	88	63	2,767,384	553,082
5 Richmond	123	36	2,918,460	464,017
6 Atlanta	152	34	2,397,390	382,988
7 Chicago	138	64	3,438,805	1,420,313
8 St. Louis	108	31	5,273,193	524,242
9 Minneapolis	27	18	703,571	209,558
10 Kansas City	66	11	4,189,798	42,557
11 Dallas	98	19	2,702,583	203,445
12 San Francisco	137	64	2,838,475	1,175,216
Total U. S.	1,336	566	\$67,408,909	\$12,699,326

LABOR

The labor situation at this date is easier than one month ago, due to the absorption of a considerable portion of the unemployment in various outdoor activities. But there is still a large surplus of labor. On April 1 a summary of reports from employing corporations, representative of ten industries in this district, showed the number of employees on payrolls was 26% less than the number on payrolls on April 1, 1920. Wage adjustments are proceeding slowly, reductions in wage scales having been made in a number of plants and industries and accepted by employees, while in other plants and industries old wage scales are maintained.

Farm Labor.—The shortage of labor on the farms of the Tenth Federal Reserve District, which was acute during the war period and to a considerable extent in 1919 and 1920, has been relieved so far as the 1921 season is concerned. The April reports of all states in the district reflect a supply of labor in excess of that of one year ago and generally in excess of the normal supply, while at the same time the reports would indicate that the demand for farm labor this month is from 13% to 25% below the demand at this time last year. The figures reported by states follow:

	Supply % Normal	Demand % Normal
Colorado	105	87
Kansas	94	83
Missouri	92	90
New Mexico	107	85
Nebraska	100	90
Oklahoma	97	78
Wyoming	111	86

The largely increased supply of farm labor has been augmented materially by industrial declines which are causing many workers who went to the cities during the war to drift back to the country. On the other hand many farmers are planning to employ as little hired help as possible on account of the lowered prices of farm products. Material reductions in farm wages are announced for this year in all sections of the district. Correspondents report that farmers are reluctant to hire except in cases of dire need and laborers are reluctant to work at a wage scale 25% to 35% lower than prevailed a year ago.

MERCANTILE

The wholesale trade reports to the Monthly Review indicate that March sales were largely in excess of sales in February in dry goods, groceries, hardware, furniture and drugs, while sales of millinery and jewelry fell below sales in February. The percent of increase for March over the previous month was largest in dry goods, hardware second, groceries third, drugs fourth and furniture fifth. Compared to March, 1920, however, the sales for this year were less, excepting in the case of millinery, as measured in money value.

The following is a summary of the reports:

	March, 1921 compared with February, 1921	March, 1921 compared with March, 1920
Drugs	14.1%	11.0%
Dry Goods	75.0	-30.0
Furniture	2.4	-49.2
Groceries	19.5	-22.7
Hardware	65.5	-34.3
Paints	43.7	32.9
Millinery	-3.6	.3
Jewelry	-2.3	-46.8

Retail trade, as reflected by reports from department stores in the principal cities of this district, shows a decrease of 5.4% in sales from the sales record for the same month last year. The percentage of net sales from January 1, 1921, to March 31, 1921, for all department stores reporting was 4% below the net sales during the same period last year.

Sales of men's clothing in the month of March, as reported by leading retail clothiers in cities of this district, reflect a decrease of 18.3% from the February sales, but for the first three months of 1921 there was an increase of 3.5% over sales in the same period last year. Sales of women's wear at retail, however, were 4.5% larger in March than in March, 1920, while for the year to April 1, the sales were 10% below the same period last year. Shoes show an increase of 12.5% in sales for March over the same month last year and 11.2% better than for the three months period last year.

A summary of the reports of department stores, men's and women's clothing stores and shoe stores is given in this issue of the Monthly Review. It should be understood that the percent of increase or decrease of sales as reported represents the money value of goods sold this year and last year. Therefore it would seem that, with prices on practically all lines of merchandise greatly reduced, the quantities of goods sold are in most instances larger than last year. This would indicate that retail trade is surprisingly good in the cities and, considering the inactivity in many industrial lines and the unemployment, business is holding up much better than expected.

SUMMARY OF RETAIL STORES REPORTS FOR MONTH OF MARCH IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	Department Stores	Men's Wear	Women's Wear	Shoes
Percentage increase (or decrease) of net sales during March, 1921, over net sales during same month last year	5.4%	-18.3%	+ 4.5%	+12.5%
Percentage increase (or decrease) of net sales from January 1, 1921, to March 31, 1921, over net sales during same period last year	4.	+ 3.5	-10.0	+11.2
Percentage increase (or decrease) of stocks at close of March, 1921, over stocks at close of same month last year	-20.8	-35.9	-23.5	-31.4
Percentage increase (or decrease) of stocks at close of March, 1921, over stocks at close of February, 1921	+ 6.4	+ 5.1	+52.1	- 0.8
Percentage of average stocks at close of each month this season (commencing with January 1) to average monthly net sales during the same period	359.2	364.2	224.0	304.0
Percentage of outstanding orders (cost) at close of March, 1921, to total purchases (cost) during the calendar year 1920	6.3	7.3	....	....
Percentage of collections during month of March, 1921, on amount of outstanding accounts on February 28, 1921	51.0	43.3	....	69.0
Percentage of collections for same period last year	50.3	47.0	....	63.6

AGRICULTURE

Winter Wheat.—April reports of the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates and State Boards of Agriculture announced the condition of winter wheat in the entire country as 91%, compared to 75.6% at April 1 last year and 83.6% as the average for ten years at April 1. In the states of the Tenth Federal Reserve District the April 1 condition averaged 89.6%, which was 1.4% below the average for the United States, but 14.1% better than one year ago and 7.6% better than the ten year April 1 average for the district. The percentages in detail follow:

	April, 1921	April, 1920	Ten Yr. Av.
Colorado	85%	75%	90%
Kansas	88	73	80
Nebraska	93	84	84
Missouri	93	70	84
Oklahoma	89	72	81
Wyoming	85	92	93

Av. Tenth Federal Reserve District	89.6%	75.5%	82.0%
Average for United States	91.0%	75.6%	83.6%

These estimates probably do not take into account all of the damage to wheat from the freeze which came at Easter time, reported more or less heavy in sections where plants were jointing or where roots were exposed. What damage to wheat, if any, resulted from the storms of wind, snow, sleet and rain which swept over the district April 15-16 cannot be accurately estimated until reports are compiled May 1. Over a very large area where there was a heavy fall of snow the storm is reported to have been beneficial. The abandonment of acreage also will not be ascertained until May.

Although the green bug was reported in southeastern Kansas, southwestern Missouri and some counties of Oklahoma, there appears to be no keen anxiety felt by farmers concerning the menace. The appearance of parasitic enemies, notably lady bugs and numerous wasp flies, is reported to have to a considerable extent controlled the green bug and as the season is advancing little further trouble is anticipated.

Rye.—The condition of rye in these states was reported slightly improved over the condition of December 1 and the April average probably is a little

above the average percent for the entire country which was reported as 90.3%.

Oats.—The seeding of oats progressed very rapidly and the bulk of the crop was sown and much of it up to a good stand when the freeze came in the last week of March. The reports from the eastern half of the district indicated some damage to oats by the belated low temperatures. Missouri reports a 10% increase in acreage of oats.

Corn.—The mild weather of February and March was favorable for plowing and preparation of the soil for the spring planting. In Oklahoma and southwestern Missouri much of the corn was planted in March and considerable replanting was made necessary by cold weather. In Kansas and Nebraska preparations progressed rapidly up to Easter and were generally in advance of normal. Activity was resumed in April as weather and soil conditions permitted. Missouri reports a probable reduction in acreage due to the large holdover of 1920 corn, which is offset by a probably increased acreage in Oklahoma.

Potatoes.—Under favorable conditions the planting of potatoes in Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and southern Nebraska made great progress in March. An increase in the acreage in nearly all sections is reported, particularly in Colorado.

Sugar Beets.—Full reports on the acreage of sugar beets planting this spring are not available at this time. Farmers in northern Colorado, western Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana, located in districts tributary to the Great Western Sugar Company's sixteen refineries, are signing contracts to plant sugar beets. It is indicated that the acreage for this company will reach 225,000 acres by May 1, compared with a ten year average of 180,000 acres.

Fruit.—The April reports tell of great damage to fruit by the freezing weather at Easter and mid-April. It is impossible, however, to ascertain the extent of damage until the end of the month, after a complete survey has been made by experts and percentages of condition of the various varieties of fruits in different sections are made known. From the middle-month reports it appears that in Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and eastern Nebraska—in this district—all fruit were injured more or less by the belated cold weather. Apples were not as badly injured as some reports in-

RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS OF GRAIN (BUSHELS) AT AND FROM FOUR PRINCIPAL MARKETS IN THE TENTH DISTRICT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1921 AND 1920

	RECEIPTS									
	Kansas City		Omaha		Wichita		St. Joseph		Four Markets	
	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920
Wheat	5,783,400	5,219,100	1,162,800	996,000	1,421,000	945,200	826,500	342,000	9,173,700	7,502,300
Corn	2,418,750	1,503,750	2,203,600	2,150,400	120,000	49,000	814,500	757,500	5,556,850	4,460,650
Oats	447,100	756,500	650,000	1,196,000	5,000	35,000	110,000	140,000	1,212,100	2,127,500
Rye	48,400	81,400	57,200	155,100	.....	1,000	1,400	.....	107,000	237,500
Barley	232,500	325,500	72,000	48,600	.....	20,000	57,750	.....	362,250	394,100
Kaffir	568,700	741,400	.....	.....	18,000	80,000	6,000	.....	592,700	821,400
	SHIPMENTS									
Wheat	5,636,250	3,366,900	1,450,800	1,028,400	768,000	467,000	301,500	208,500	8,156,750	5,070,800
Corn	697,500	715,000	1,960,000	1,983,800	85,000	38,500	499,500	586,500	3,242,000	3,323,800
Oats	463,500	520,500	594,000	1,174,000	5,000	30,000	82,000	96,000	1,144,500	1,820,500
Rye	45,100	94,600	63,800	268,400	.....	1,000	1,400	.....	110,300	364,000
Barley	118,300	163,800	52,200	30,600	.....	20,000	3,500	.....	174,000	214,400
Kaffir	364,000	363,000	.....	.....	18,000	80,000	.....	.....	382,000	443,000

CASH PRICES OF GRAIN AT KANSAS CITY

	March 15	March 29	April 19
Wheat—No. 1 Dark Hard winter.	\$1.60	\$1.54	\$1.35
No. 1 Hard winter	1.52½	1.51	1.30
No. 1 Red	1.65	1.47½	1.25
Corn—No. 2 White . . . . .	.60	.55	.50
No. 2 Yellow . . . . .	.59	.54¾	.54
No. 3 Mixed . . . . .	.58½	.54	.48½
Oats—No. 2 White . . . . .	.65	.41½	.36

dicated, according to reports. There will also be some peaches, cherries and berries in sheltered places, or where these fruits were not too far advanced at the time the cold weather came. Fruit in the mountain states appear to have suffered little from weather conditions in March and April.

Grain Movements.—Receipts of wheat at the four principal markets of this district in March totaled 9,193,700 bushels, which was 299,350 bushels less than the February receipts and 1,691,400 bushels more than the receipts in March, 1920. The end of the month brought a marked decrease in the visible supply of wheat, the total for the United States having shrunk to 18,480,000 bushels, compared with 44,787,000 bushels one year ago. At Kansas City and Omaha the visible supply of wheat on April 2 was down to 2,655,000 bushels. Stocks of wheat in elevators at other centers of this district were also very low, and with little in country elevators there is indicated a larger reserve of wheat on farms in this district than has been previously reported in April.

Receipts of corn in March also exceeded the receipts in the previous month and in March, 1920, at the four markets. The movement of corn from the country at the beginning of April was comparatively light, due largely to high rail rates and the low prices being paid to farmers for corn.

Receipts of oats in March were 43% less than in the same month last year. Rye and barley receipts were 54.9% and 8% less than in the corresponding month in 1920, while kaffir receipts registered a decline of 27.8%.

Flour.—Increased activity in flour production is reflected by the March reports for Kansas City and Omaha, though the output reported from interior mills was less than in the same month last year. The following indicates the output, in barrels, of mills in the district reporting for March:

	March, 1921	March, 1920	Pct. Change
Kansas City	289,900	222,300	Inc. 30.4
Omaha	53,635	46,475	Inc. 15.4
82 Interior Mills	876,504	934,876	Dec. 6.2
Total barrels	1,220,039	1,203,651	Inc. 1.3

The export flour trade is reported fairly satisfactory with the demand becoming more general. The domestic trade at the first week in April, however, was less encouraging. Mills which had been working on contracts had about caught up and little new business activity had developed. Recent cuts in prices to conform to the wheat market brought an element of uncertainty to the situation and caused buyers to hesitate.

Receipts of flour at Kansas City in March were 65,975 barrels compared with 64,350 barrels one year ago, while shipments for March were 314,900 barrels as against 239,850 barrels in the same month last year.

LIVE STOCK

Pastures and ranges are greening up throughout the entire country and live stock generally are in good condition and health excellent. Sheep have been moving from the winter ranges to lambing grounds and a good lamb crop is in prospect. Wool growers in some localities are planning for a wool pool. Nebraska reports good demand for brood sows and the Department of Agriculture of that state announces a gain of 5% in the number of brood sows on farms. A similar report comes from Kansas. The big surplus of corn has given a new impetus to the swine industry, farmers realizing that a good way to consume the corn surplus is through increased pork production.

The granting of a temporary reduction of freight rates of 35% for the shipment of live stock from New Mexico to northern ranges and markets is designed to work a saving to the stockmen, as it enables them to ship stock that have been ready for shipment for several months.

Market Movements.—The supply of meat animals at the six markets of the 10th Federal Reserve District in the first three months of 1921 was about equal to the normal supply for that season and fully up to meat consumptive requirements. The receipts of cattle for the three months was 1,083,022, calves 105,754, hogs 2,339,492, and sheep 1,619,501. Compared with a year ago the receipts for the quarter of 1921 indicate decreases of 16.1% on cattle, 5.4% on calves, 11.8% on hogs and .27% on sheep. The receipts of horses and mules for the three months period totaled 22,040 or 73.6% below the record for the three months in 1920.

LIVE STOCK PRICES AT KANSAS CITY

	March 15	March 29	April 19
Bulk sales of Hogs	\$10.00@10.65	\$8.75@9.80	\$7.60@ 8.50
Beef steers, good choice	8.90@10.25	8.15@9.35	7.75@ 8.85
Butcher cattle, com-choice	5.00@ 8.50	5.00@8.25	4.75@ 8.15
Feeder steers, com-choice	7.75@ 9.10	7.15@8.75	6.75@ 8.15
Stocker cattle, com-choice	6.00@ 8.65	5.25@8.25	4.25@ 7.90
Lambs, med-choice	8.75@10.15	8.00@9.65	8.00@10.35

RECEIPTS OF LIVE STOCK MARCH, 1921

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Horses & Mules
Kansas City	149,056	21,177	191,063	152,106	3,832
Omaha	124,192	5,737	280,186	214,816	1,154
St. Joseph	42,506	5,558	114,929	94,180	1,506
Denver	23,032	2,508	35,318	138,720	1,337
Oklahoma City	25,050	2,776	58,829	2,280	68
Wichita	23,575	2,129	34,007	2,065	752
March, 1921	387,411	39,885	714,332	604,167	8,649
February, 1921	288,707	29,270	847,609	506,082	7,394
March, 1920	407,386	37,616	951,384	536,693	19,770

Meat Packing.—March purchases of animals for slaughter exceeded those of February in number of cattle, calves and sheep, but the slaughter of hogs in that month was 15.2% less than in February and 22.4% less than in March a year ago. Meat trade movement at this season is reported somewhat irregular and March is said to have been one of the poorest periods in the history of the industry on account of a perceptible weakening in the strength of the demand for commodities.

PACKERS' PURCHASES IN CITIES OF THE TENTH DISTRICT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1921

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
Kansas City	74,212	18,014	133,829	130,016
Omaha	78,624	2,183	197,918	158,173
St. Joseph	26,199	5,293	91,415	68,403
Denver	10,275	1,619	34,271	20,247
Oklahoma City	13,791	1,494	54,873	1,864
Wichita	4,573	1,695	31,573	182
March, 1921	207,674	30,298	543,879	378,885
February, 1921	157,480	22,574	641,193	333,147
March, 1920	230,232	29,978	701,226	351,872

PETROLEUM

Production of crude oil in Kansas and Oklahoma in the four weeks ending April 18 is estimated to have averaged 370,500 barrels per day, indicating a steadily increased production since the beginning of the year 1921. This average compares with 344,050 barrels as the average production per day in the corresponding four weeks in 1920, an increase for this year's four weeks period of 26,450 barrels per day.

Production for the full month of March in Kansas and Oklahoma is estimated from the reports at 11,389,400 barrels, an increase for the month this year of 897,760 barrels, or 8.5%. Production in Wyoming and Colorado in the month of March closely approximated 1,600,000 barrels, against 1,506,000 barrels in February and 1,175,000 barrels one year ago.

New Developments.—A summary of field activities for March in Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming shows the number of wells completed was 3 less than in February and 158 less than in March, 1920. Daily new production increased 5,796 barrels over February and was 4,097 barrels less than in March of last year. Fewer wells were drilling at the end of March than at the end of February and also at the end of March, 1920. The reports for the three states for March are here shown:

	Wells Completed	Bbls. Daily New Prod'n.	Rigs & Wells Drilling
Kansas	182	16,695	327
Oklahoma	552	45,165	1,559
Wyoming	34	9,600	614
March, 1921	768	71,460	2,500
February, 1921	771	65,664	2,624
March, 1920	926	75,557	3,008

Stocks of oil in storage in Kansas and Oklahoma are around 53,000,000 barrels and, with the momentum of increase in crude production, efforts are being put forth by a co-operation of producers to curtail production to a point where it is on par with pipe line capacity. But how far crude oil production can be cur-

tailed is a big problem as the foregoing figures on new developments would indicate. In the Wyoming fields the first efforts are being made to curtail production through an order issued by the Midwest Refinery Company, early in April, to accept only 65% of the oil from each lease in the Salt Creek field. Other Wyoming fields were not affected, but in all of them there is reported a disposition to slacken activities pending a revival of business. It is noted, however, that refinery operations in Kansas and Oklahoma were materially increased on April 1 by the resumption of 13 refineries which were not operated in March, thus easing up the situation considerably.

MINING

Lead and Zinc.—A review of the Joplin ore market for the month of March showed little variation from the previous month condition for either lead or zinc ore. The price range for zinc blende ores was \$20.00 to \$22.50 per ton throughout the month with an average price for the month of \$21.92 on a total of 22,138 tons of ore shipped, the latter averaging 5,534 tons per week. The lead ore market prices were as low as \$35.00 during the month and ranged up to \$42.50 with the average price for the entire month of \$38.97 for a total of 4,476 tons, or 1,119 tons per week. The report makes the following comparison of tons shipped and average price per ton of ores for the month of March, 1921, and 1920:

	Shipments, Tons		Av. Price Per Ton	
	Mch., 1921	Mch., 1920	Mch., 1921	Mch., 1920
Zinc blende ores	22,138	55,995	\$21.92	\$ 50.52
Lead ores	4,476	7,077	38.97	106.86

It is estimated that production per week during March was around 7,000 tons of zinc and 1,200 tons of lead. This compares with 10,000 tons of zinc blende and 1,800 tons of lead one year ago. On the other hand surplus stocks of both lead and zinc have largely increased. It is estimated that there is a surplus of 60,000 tons of zinc and 600 tons of lead in the bins of the ore producers as compared with 26,000 tons of zinc and 150 tons of lead for the same period last year. It is also known that the stocks of both lead and zinc ores in the hands of the smelters are very much larger at this period than they were one year ago.

Compared with the month of March one year ago there has been a great diminution of mining activities, a few of the mines being forced to close from week to week, until there are at present 36 mines working out of a total of 208. It is reported that many miners who are not employed are being taken care of by other industries, or by the miners going outside the field for labor, but there is still quite a number of unemployed men in the Picher district and other towns of the mining field.

The past month noted the starting up of one of the smelting plants of the Eagle Picher Company, the plant being located at Galena, Kansas, which is devoted to the manufacture of pig lead only. The schedule is four days per week, which takes care of approximately 100 workmen who had been idle for a period of 90 days. The independent lead plant at Hockerville is also working on a four day schedule.

It has been announced that one of the zinc smelters at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, has resumed operations on a small scale with a reduction in the wage scale of fifteen per cent.

Colorado Metal Mining.—Little change is noted in the Colorado metal mining condition during the past month. Those mines which depend to any great extent on the base metals are either closed or simply doing little development work to keep the properties open. There is some activity in the development of precious metal properties to which attention has been turned by the impossibility of successfully operating base metal mines. It is estimated that there are now about 4,000 men at work in the mines whereas 10,000 is considered the normal number. A 50c cut in wages at the mines was inaugurated the first of the year.

The cost of supplies in general has come down a little except in the case of powder. Before the war the average price of dynamite, commonly used in the metal mines, was 12½c to 13c and it is now about twice that amount. In most mines the explosives represent fully 50% of the cost of supplies used, consequently a reduction in their prices would be a considerable help to the miners.

Coal.—Production of soft coal at the mines of this district continued to decline during the month of March and at the close of week ending on the 19th had reached a very low ebb. The capacity of coal operations at which mines were worked was 38.8% in Colorado, 57.4% in Kansas, 49.3% in Missouri and 58.9% in Oklahoma. Losses of operation on account of transportation disability, labor shortage, strikes and mine disability had been reduced to very low percentage, the greater loss of operating capacity being due to no market for coal. The following tabulation based on reports at weekly periods in March is explanatory:

	Colo.	Kans.	Mo.	Okla.
Pct. of capacity operation.....	38.8%	57.4%	49.3%	58.9%
Causes of operating loss—				
Transportation disability	9.1%	1.5%	1.0%	.....
Labor shortage . . . . .	.....	5.5%	0.5%	0.3%
Strikes . . . . .	.....	6.9%	1.2%	.....
Mine disability	1.4%	6.7%	3.6%	0.2%
No market	50.6%	28.7%	44.2%	40.2%

The decreasing coal production is not confined to this particular section but is general throughout the United States and the coal year closed on April 1 with a total production of approximately 523,000,000 tons mined in the United States as compared with approximately 485,000,000 tons mined in the year ending April 1, 1920.

Demand for domestic coal is practically nil while the demand for steam plant coal is restricted by inactivity of manufacturing plants. Railroads are buying little coal out of the market, relying on storage piles for a good part of their present requirements.

BUILDING

Permits issued in seventeen cities of the Tenth Federal Reserve District in March totaled 2,778 as compared with 2,357 issued in the same month last year, an increase in the number of permits of 17.9% over the total number of permits issued in March, 1920. The estimated cost of building for which permits were issued last month in these seventeen cities was \$6,247,-

836 compared with \$8,774,535 in March of last year, the decrease in estimated cost being 28.8%. The reports indicate that the March reports were practically 100% above those of February of this year both in number and the estimated cost. The reports for the seventeen cities for March follow:

	Permits	Est. Value	Pct. Change
Denver, Colo.	564	\$1,169,050	49.1
Kansas City, Mo.	441	1,037,900	—39.7
Oklahoma City, Okla.	347	1,028,487	2.0
Tulsa, Okla.	231	770,600	—32.0
Omaha, Neb.	193	565,810	—43.5
Wichita, Kans.	283	512,916	—1.5
Kansas City, Kans.	111	355,290	124.8
Okmulgee, Okla.	48	169,900	—26.5
Lincoln, Neb.	78	131,713	—79.1
Muskogee, Okla.	43	130,900	11.9
Colorado Springs, Colo.	124	102,149	18.2
Joplin, Mo.	22	62,350	624.4
St. Joseph, Mo.	110	61,180	—91.8
Topeka, Kans.	77	59,916	—42.9
Pueblo, Colo.	78	51,815	—49.7
Cheyenne, Wyo.	21	22,860	—83.5
Leavenworth, Kans.	7	15,000	—40.0
Total, March, 1921.	2,778	\$6,247,836	—28.8
Total, March, 1920.	2,357	\$8,774,535	
Gain in number of permits of 17.9%.			

The returns from the cities of this district as appearing in the foregoing tabulated statement are very encouraging particularly for the erection of homes, although many of the larger projected building enterprises are awaiting wage settlement.

The building of April caused considerable activity in demand for lumber and building materials. Retail yards in the principal cities were quite busy and their stocks were getting below normal. It was noticed there was less activity in the lumber and material trade in country towns.

CONDITION OF 82 SELECTED MEMBER BANKS

April 8, 1921 March 4, 1921

1. Loans and Discounts (exclusive of rediscounts):		
(a) Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations	\$ 18,945,000	\$ 18,958,000
(b) Secured by stocks and bonds other than U. S. Bonds.	74,730,000	76,936,000
(c) All other	357,223,000	364,781,000
2. Investments:		
(a) U. S. Bonds.	35,192,000	36,496,000
(b) U. S. Victory Notes	3,083,000	3,577,000
(c) U. S. Cert. of Ind.	4,425,000	5,495,000
(d) Other bonds, stocks and securities	52,771,000	53,208,000
3. Total loans and discounts, and investments	546,369,000	559,451,000
4. Reserve bal. with F. R. Bk.	46,942,000	45,446,000
5. Cash in vault.	12,943,000	13,619,000
6. Net demand dep. on which reserve is computed.	380,871,000	401,671,000
7. Time deposits	100,608,000	101,132,000
8. Government deposits	3,740,000	1,726,000
9. Member banks' collateral notes secured by:		
(a) U. S. Govt. obligations.	18,515,000	18,643,000
(b) All other	None	None
10. Bills discounted for member banks secured by:		
(a) U. S. Govt. obligations.	3,625,000	3,881,000
(b) All other	40,824,000	37,723,000
Total (items 3 to 10 inclusive).	\$1,154,437,000	\$1,183,292,000

Statement of Condition
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY
 Including Branches

RESOURCES

	At Close of Business April 15, 1921
Gold Coin and Certificates.....	\$ 2,635,680.45
Gold Settlement Fund F. R. Board.....	28,849,247.96
Gold with Federal Reserve Agent.....	34,519,540.00
Gold Redemption Fund.....	4,314,534.75
Legal Tender Notes, Silver, etc.....	3,367,391.75
Bills Discounted:	
Secured by Govt. Obligations.....	33,449,327.69
All other	62,439,393.42
Bills Bought in Open Market.....	69,000.00
U. S. Govt. Bonds.....	8,867,850.00
One Year Cert. of Indebtedness (Pittman Act)	10,320,000.00
All Other Cert. of Indebtedness.....	100,000.00
Bank Premises	2,031,760.91
5% Redemption Fund Against F. R. Bk. Notes.	915,590.00
Uncollected Items	44,001,567.93
All Other Resources.....	608,842.66
Total Resources.....	\$236,489,727.52

LIABILITIES

Capital Paid In.....	\$ 4,474,600.00
Surplus	9,158,814.24
Government Deposits	5,155,766.67
Due to Members, Reserve Account.....	71,861,572.10
Other Deposits	789,866.74
F. R. Notes in Actual Circulation.....	90,849,175.00
F. R. Bank Notes in Actual Circulation.....	11,083,200.00
Deferred Availability Items.....	40,518,575.11
All Other Liabilities.....	2,598,157.66
Total Liabilities.....	\$236,489,727.52

OTHER TOTALS

Total Gold Reserves.....	\$ 70,319,003.16
Total Earning Assets.....	115,245,571.11
Total Deposits	77,807,205.51
Ratio of Total Reserves to Deposit and Federal Reserve Notes Liabilities combined...	43.6%
Ratio of Gold Reserve to Federal Reserve Notes in Actual Circulation after setting aside 35% against deposit liabilities.....	51.1%

CLEARINGS

Total Clearings for Week.....	\$167,811,240.64
Total Number of Items Handled.....	1,244,977