

# THE MONTHLY REVIEW

*Of Agricultural, Industrial, Trade and Financial  
Conditions in the Tenth Federal Reserve District*

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

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**I**DEAL harvest weather conditions prevailed throughout the Tenth District the last half of June and the forepart of July, and by the third week of July the harvest of wheat, oats, rye, and barley was practically completed. A record crop of winter wheat was harvested, but prices were the lowest in history and the tendency is for producers to hold their wheat, when financially able to do so.

Timely and well distributed showers in mid-July temporarily relieved threatened drought conditions and materially increased crop prospects in the eastern part of the District, but the western half continued in need of rain, with ranges, pastures, and growing crops suffering from lack of moisture.

Department store trade in June was smaller than in May by about the normal seasonal amount and 4.8 percent smaller than in June, 1930. Wholesale trade, contrary to the usual seasonal trend, was slightly larger in June than in May, but was 15.1 percent smaller than in June last year. Collections in June were smaller than in either the preceding month or the corresponding month last year.

Flour milling, coal mining, and cement production declined seasonally in June as compared to the preceding month. Zinc ore production declined in June, but slightly more lead ore was mined. Crude oil production was less in June than in May, and a 15 cents per barrel decline in crude oil prices the forepart of July, carrying prices to the lowest level of record, led to a further reduction of petroleum production. Flour milling and production in all mineral lines during June and the first six months this year were substantially smaller than in the corresponding month and six months of 1930.

June building operations were at the lowest level for that month in the twelve years of record.

## Banking and Credit

Consolidated statements of fifty-six reporting member banks in the Tenth District, as of July 15 compared to June 17, disclose a slight reduction in loans and discounts and time deposits and a slight increase in investments during the four weeks. Net demand deposits showed no change. Compared to holdings as of July 16, 1930 loans and discounts decreased 17.4 percent, those secured by stocks and bonds decreasing 28 percent and "All Other" loans decreasing 12.5 percent. There was an increase during the year of 28 percent in investments in United States government securities with total investments increasing 23.4 percent. Net demand deposits decreased 10.5 percent but time deposits increased 5.7 percent in the fifty-two weeks.

**RESERVE BANK OPERATIONS:** Member banks reduced their borrowings at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and branches 20.4 percent in the four weeks between June 17 and July 15, and on the latter date rediscounts were 6.7

## BUSINESS IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Percentages of Increase, or Decrease (—), for June 1931 over May 1931 and June 1930 and for the first six months of 1931 over the like period in 1930.

	June 1931 Compared to		6 Months 1931 Compared to	
	May 1931	June 1930	6 Months 1931	6 Months 1930
<b>Banking</b>				
Payments by check, 29 cities.....	2.1	-26.9	-21.6	
Federal Reserve Bank clearings.....	7.4	-14.2	-17.0	
Business failures, number.....	-26.5	-36.2	-4.2	
Business failures, liabilities.....	-45.1	59.0	2.3	
Loans, 56 member banks.....	-1.5	-17.4		
Investments, 56 member banks.....	1.1	23.4		
Net demand deposits, 56 member banks	0	-10.5		
Time deposits, 56 member banks.....	-0.2	5.7		
Savings deposits, 49 selected banks.....	-0.3	7.9		
Savings accounts, 48 selected banks.....	-0.3	4.8		
Life insurance, written.....	1.8	-8.3	-15.9	
<b>Distribution</b>				
Wholesalers' sales, 5 lines combined.....	2.4	-15.1	-18.0	
Retailers' sales, 37 department stores.....	-11.3	-4.8	-6.9	
Lumber sales, 172 retail yards.....	0.3	-9.8	-27.2	
<b>Construction</b>				
Building contracts awarded, value.....	17.3	-74.3	-47.0	
Building permits in 18 cities, value.....	-6.9	-33.9	-34.5	
<b>Grain receipts, 5 markets</b>				
Wheat.....	-16.1	16.3	76.4	
Corn.....	10.5	-27.8	-17.7	
Oats.....	-32.1	-70.9	-46.6	
Rye.....	-68.6	-56.8	6.2	
Barley.....	-62.2	-72.0	-53.1	
Kafir.....	90.0	5.1	-48.6	
<b>Livestock receipts, 6 markets</b>				
Cattle.....	-2.6	3.3	-4.9	
Calves.....	31.7	14.1	-14.2	
Hogs.....	0.9	-8.8	-10.1	
Sheep.....	-22.2	22.6	4.6	
Horses and mules.....	-41.7	-28.3	-37.6	
<b>Production</b>				
Flour.....	-9.3	-18.9	-9.9	
Crude petroleum.....	-8.3	-12.6	-9.0	
Soft coal.....	-16.6	-20.0	-20.7	
Zinc ore (shipped) Tristate District.....	-8.7	-65.6	-46.1	
Lead ore (shipped) Tristate District.....	1.2	-76.0	-46.3	
Cement.....	-3.8	-8.4	-22.8	
<b>Meat packing, 6 cities</b>				
Cattle.....	0.1	-4.3	-3.4	
Calves.....	30.0	18.7	-7.2	
Hogs.....	-3.8	-13.6	-4.9	
Sheep.....	-6.7	9.6	-7.5	

percent less than on the corresponding date last year. There was a further increase in this bank's holdings of United States securities, the total of July 15 being 15.2 percent greater than on June 17 and 35.4 percent greater than on July 16, 1930. Total bills and securities held by this bank increased 1.5 percent in four weeks and 18.9 percent in fifty-two weeks.

Principal resource and liability items of the fifty-six reporting banks and of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, as of three dates, follow:

## REPORTING MEMBER BANKS

	July 15, 1931	June 17, 1931	July 16, 1930
Loans and investments—total.....	\$635,738,000	\$638,144,000	\$660,810,000
Loans and discounts—total.....	363,741,000	369,152,000	440,357,000
Secured by stocks and bonds	100,901,000	101,858,000	140,132,000
All other loans and discounts	262,840,000	267,294,000	300,225,000
Investments—total.....	271,997,000	268,992,000	220,453,000
U. S. securities.....	119,225,000	117,879,000	93,161,000
Other bonds, stks. and sec.....	152,772,000	151,113,000	127,292,000
Reserve with F. R. bank.....	53,218,000	53,057,000	57,701,000
Net demand deposits.....	446,513,000	446,496,000	499,114,000
Time deposits.....	203,835,000	204,333,000	192,835,000
Government deposits.....	3,056,000	4,055,000	1,694,000

## FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

	July 15, 1931	June 17, 1931	July 16, 1930
Gold reserves.....	\$ 90,912,532	\$ 91,409,496	\$112,749,777
Reserves other than gold.....	7,665,683	6,809,144	5,991,624
Total reserves.....	98,578,215	98,218,640	118,741,401
Bills discounted.....	9,413,169	11,832,643	10,085,433
Bills purchased.....	4,061,352	6,421,359	5,901,705
U. S. securities.....	38,921,500	33,779,500	28,736,000
Total bills and securities.....	53,176,021	52,383,502	44,723,138
Total resources.....	187,058,930	185,061,550	210,924,858
F. R. notes in circulation.....	62,972,390	62,906,190	69,578,630
Total deposits.....	85,031,520	83,139,267	91,295,414

The discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, on all classes of paper and all maturities, remained unchanged at 3 percent.

**SAVINGS:** The July 1 reports of a selected list of banks in this District reflect a decrease of 0.3 percent in both the number of savings accounts and the amount of savings deposits as compared to June 1. This is the first time this year that a reduction in either of these items has been reported. Compared to July 1, 1930, forty-nine banks reported an increase of 7.9 percent in savings deposits and forty-eight banks an increase of 4.8 percent in the number of accounts.

Savings deposits and accounts for the three dates are here shown:

	Savings Accounts	Savings Deposits
	48 Banks	49 Banks
July 1, 1931.....	426,124	\$133,938,577
June 1, 1931.....	427,555	134,351,915
July 1, 1930.....	406,770	124,109,205

## Business Failures

There were fewer commercial failures in this District in June than in any month since October, 1928, and the June and the first six months' totals this year were smaller than those for the corresponding month and six months of 1930. The amount of liabilities involved in June and first half-year failures this year was, however, larger than last year.

Commercial failures in the Tenth District and the United States, as reported by R. G. Dun and Company, are shown in the following:

	TENTH DISTRICT		UNITED STATES	
	Number	Liabilities	Number	Liabilities
June 1931.....	83	\$ 2,502,400	1,993	\$ 51,655,648
May 1931.....	113	4,561,233	2,248	53,371,212
June 1930.....	130	1,573,613	2,026	63,130,762
Six Months, 1931.....	727	13,608,319	15,107	370,497,369
Six Months, 1930.....	759	13,306,863	13,771	337,089,043

## Payments By Check

Reporting banks in twenty-nine selected cities in the Tenth District reported an increase in payments by check of 2.1 percent during the four weeks' period ended July 1 over the preceding four weeks' period ended June 3, but the total amount was 26.9 percent less than was shown for the corresponding period last year.

Cumulative debits to individual accounts during the first twenty-six weeks of 1931 were 21.6 percent less than in 1930, and the total was the smallest for the initial half of any year since 1924.

## PAYMENTS BY CHECK

(In thousands of dollars—000 omitted)

	FOUR WEEKS ENDED		TWENTY-SIX WEEKS ENDED	
	July 1, 1931	July 2, 1930	July 1, 1931	July 2, 1930
Albuquerque, N. M.....	\$ 9,533	\$ 11,895	\$ 67,521	\$ 76,357
Atchison, Kans.....	4,013	5,698	26,672	37,286
Bartlesville, Okla.....	15,466	28,024	113,255	146,979
Casper, Wyo.....	5,453	7,575	34,376	42,905
Cheyenne, Wyo.....	5,471	5,884	37,275	38,730
Colorado Springs, Colo.....	13,725	16,686	81,985	93,271
Denver, Colo.....	128,438	159,776	880,444	1,053,166
Enid, Okla.....	11,393	21,481	64,561	92,116
Fremont, Nebr.....	2,998	3,822	20,542	25,570
Grand Junction, Colo.....	2,482	2,816	15,872	18,699
Guthrie, Okla.....	1,682	3,013	13,351	20,348
Hutchinson, Kans.....	11,013	21,196	78,458	109,588
Independence, Kans.....	5,662	11,526	42,461	70,887
Joplin, Mo.....	7,141	10,594	48,313	69,287
Kansas City, Kans.....	17,703	18,376	97,155	120,407
Kansas City, Mo.....	313,105	398,089	2,012,331	2,498,323
Lawrence, Kans.....	4,023	4,832	26,954	30,232
Lincoln, Nebr.....	28,233	34,682	179,897	210,717
Muskogee, Okla.....	7,435	10,084	50,019	65,453
Oklahoma City, Okla.....	82,320	123,047	575,800	775,553
Okmulgee, Okla.....	3,087	5,870	22,112	38,542
Omaha, Nebr.....	163,003	199,941	1,077,550	1,303,728
Pittsburg, Kans.....	4,349	4,917	27,257	32,790
Pueblo, Colo.....	15,623	16,741	96,870	116,459
Salina, Kans.....	8,173	11,734	59,965	70,365
St. Joseph, Mo.....	30,328	42,125	228,669	298,020
Topeka, Kans.....	16,895	18,147	114,592	126,851
Tulsa, Okla.....	73,702	157,056	587,359	921,074
Wichita, Kans.....	41,313	58,479	291,460	387,228
Total 29 cities.....	\$ 1,033,762	\$ 1,414,106	\$ 6,973,076	\$ 8,890,931
Total United States.....	43,575,593	64,374,011	286,794,856	393,205,476

## Federal Reserve Bank Clearings

During the first six months of 1931 the dollar amount of check collections through the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and branches declined 17.0 percent, although only 5.3 percent fewer items were handled than in the first six months of 1930.

June clearings exceeded those in May in both the number of items handled and the aggregate amount, but were less for both items than one year ago.

The figures follow:

	ITEMS		AMOUNT	
	1931	1930	1931	1930
June.....	5,754,170	5,831,102	\$ 736,522,000	\$ 858,712,000
May.....	5,423,176	5,854,125	685,779,000	872,060,000
Six months.....	33,037,891	34,900,684	4,360,603,000	5,254,717,000

## Life Insurance

Reports of the Life Insurance Research Bureau indicate June and half-year sales of new paid-for ordinary life insurance were smaller in 1931 than in 1930 in every state in the Tenth District. The June total for the seven states was 8.3 percent smaller and the half-year total 15.9 percent smaller this year than in the corresponding period last year.

## Trade

**RETAIL:** Department store trade in this District in June showed about the customary seasonal decrease from May, and the money volume of sales was 4.8 percent smaller than in June, 1930. Twelve of the thirty-seven stores reported their June sales this year as exceeding those of last June. Only three of the thirty-seven reporting stores had a larger dollar volume of business in the first six months of the current year than in the corresponding six months of the preceding year and the



RETAIL TRADE AT 37 DEPARTMENT STORES IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Stores Reporting	SALES		STOCKS (RETAIL)		STOCK TURNOVER				ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		COLLECTIONS		
	June 1931 compared to June 1930	6 Months 1931 compared to 6 Months 1930	June 30, 1931 compared to		June 1931	6 Months 1931	June 30, 1931 compared to		June 1931 compared to				
	June 1930	6 Months 1930	May 31, 1931	June 30, 1930	1931	1930	May 31, 1931	June 30, 1930	May 1931	June 1930			
Kansas City.....	4	-0.4	-4.8	-8.5	-13.7	.23	.20	1.36	1.25	-4.7	3.2	7.3	-3.2
Denver.....	5	-3.5	-4.8	-4.8	-9.3	.24	.23	1.36	1.27	-2.7	2.1	0.2	-0.5
Oklahoma City....	3	-20.6	-12.8	-1.6	-4.0	.22	.26	1.51	1.66	0.1	-6.3	-14.1	-17.9
Omaha.....	3	2.2	-5.6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.5	5.6	2.0	Even
Lincoln.....	2	5.4	-0.1	-3.7	-14.4	.25	.21	1.57	1.33	-3.1	5.3	-1.1	-3.6
Topeka.....	3	-3.5	-7.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-0.5	3.4	-5.1	-4.1
Tulsa.....	4	-11.4	-10.6	-8.6	-20.1	.24	.22	1.74	1.55	-4.1	-8.2	-7.5	-13.9
Wichita.....	3	-6.6	-7.0	-1.9	-16.0	.21	.20	1.42	1.19	0.3	-10.5	-10.0	-16.7
Other Cities.....	10	-9.0	-13.2	5.2	-11.8	.16	.16	.99	1.00	-2.0	-5.0	-9.0	-11.3
Total.....	37	-4.8	-6.9	-4.8	-11.8	.24	.22	1.42	1.34	-2.0	-0.5	-2.4	-6.3

NOTE: Percentage of collections in June on accounts May 31, all stores reporting 37.0. Collections same month last year 39.0.

combined sales of the thirty-seven stores reflected a decrease for the period of 6.9 percent.

Sales at leading apparel and shoe stores averaged 11.7 percent less in June this year than in June, 1930 and retail furniture houses reported their June sales as 9.3 percent smaller than a year ago.

Department store stocks were reduced 4.3 percent between May 31 and June 30 and, on the latter date, were 11.8 percent smaller than one year earlier. Retail apparel and retail furniture stores reported their June 30, 1931 stocks as 4.4 and 14.0 percent, respectively, smaller than on June 30, 1930.

WHOLESALE: The combined sales of five representative wholesale lines (dry goods, groceries, hardware, furniture, and drugs) were 2.4 percent larger in June than in May but 15.1 percent smaller than in June, 1930. Sales of groceries, hardware, and drugs showed an increase for the month but were less than a year ago. Sales of dry goods and furniture were smaller in June than in either the preceding month or the corresponding month last year.

All five lines reported smaller stocks on hand June 30 than on May 31 and wholesalers of groceries were the only ones to report larger stocks this year than last.

COLLECTIONS: Department stores reported their collections during June as 37 percent of the amounts outstanding on the last day of the previous month, compared with 37.6 percent in May and 39 percent in June, 1930. All wholesale lines reported their collections in June as smaller than a year ago. Wholesalers of dry goods, groceries, and furniture, however, reported their June collections exceeded their May collections.

Grain Marketing

Efforts to dispose of old crop wheat before new wheat would begin moving to market in any considerable quantity, and before old wheat prices settled to the new crop basis, was reflected in the unusually large receipts of wheat at the five principal grain markets in this District during June. The total for the five markets was the largest for any June on twelve years' records and the heavy marketings in the preceding months combined to make the total for the first half of the year the largest for that period of record.

During the wheat year ended June 30, 1931, receipts of wheat at the five markets were 237,864,120 bushels compared to 223,581,280 bushels in the previous wheat year ended June 30, 1930.

With harvest well under way and yields exceeding earlier expectations, new wheat moved to market in heavy volume the first two weeks in July.

In contrast to unusually heavy marketings of wheat, the market was featured by unusually light marketings of other grains during June and the first six months of the year. June and half year arrivals of oats at the five markets were the smallest on twelve years' records. June arrivals of corn were the smallest for that month since 1924 and the half year total was the smallest for any corresponding period since 1927. June and six months' receipts of barley were the smallest since 1928, and except for June, 1930, receipts of kafir were the smallest for any June since 1923 and the half year's total was the smallest since that year.

	Wheat Bushels	Corn Bushels	Oats Bushels	Rye Bushels	Barley Bushels	Kafir Bushels
Hutchinson.....	3,078,000	81,250	1,500	-----	5,000	84,500
Kansas City.....	8,129,600	2,116,500	166,000	7,500	32,000	193,500
Omaha.....	971,200	968,800	110,000	2,800	12,800	-----
St. Joseph.....	243,000	504,000	112,000	1,500	14,000	1,500
Wichita.....	2,820,000	62,400	1,500	-----	6,500	6,500
June 1931.....	15,241,800	3,732,950	391,000	11,800	70,300	286,000
May 1931.....	18,169,800	3,377,450	575,500	37,600	186,000	150,500
June 1930.....	13,108,300	5,166,950	1,345,000	27,300	251,300	272,000
6 Mos. 1931.....	87,139,450	35,097,500	4,840,000	179,300	664,950	1,517,400
6 Mos. 1930.....	49,393,220	42,641,300	9,063,000	168,900	1,416,500	2,954,200

After Federal stabilization was withdrawn early in June and before the appearance of new wheat on the market, wheat prices increased about three cents above the May top to 79 cents per bushel at Kansas City, but quickly receded and closed the month at approximately 50 cents per bushel. Heavy marketings in July and other factors continued to affect the price adversely and on July 15 cash wheat sold at 50¼ and 41½ cents per bushel on the Chicago and Kansas City markets, respectively, a new all-time low price record for each. Prices paid producers at country shipping points in Kansas the second week in July ranged from 25 to 30 cents per bushel.

WHOLESALE TRADE IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Reporting Stores	SALES		OUTSTANDINGS		COLLECTIONS		STOCKS		
	June 1931 compared to May 1931	June 1930	June 30, 1931 compared to May 31, 1931	June 30, 1930	June 1931 compared to May 1931	June 1930	June 30, 1931 compared to May 31, 1931	June 30, 1930	
Dry Goods.....	6	-7.0	-14.2	-4.0	-6.9	0.8	-4.4	-2.2	-7.6
Groceries.....	5	8.0	-5.5	1.8	2.2	2.2	-10.5	-5.0	0.8
Hardware.....	9	8.8	-20.1	3.9	-9.3	-5.2	-28.4	-3.8	-12.3
Furniture.....	6	-9.6	-31.5	-9.6	-37.8	5.4	-28.0	-11.7	-39.5
Drugs.....	6	1.7	-15.7	0.3	-12.6	-2.8	-14.1	-2.4	-18.6

## Flour Production

Flour production in this District in June was, as usual, the smallest for any month of the old wheat year, and the total for June this year was the smallest for any month since May, 1926, or for any June since 1924. The decrease from May was 9.3 percent, about the usual seasonal amount, and as compared to June, 1930, the decrease was 18.9 percent.

Mills operated at 51.9 percent of capacity during June which was the lowest rate of activity reported for any month since May, 1925, and for any June since 1923, comparing with 57.3 percent for May and 67.0 percent for June, 1930.

During the 1930-1931 wheat year ended June 30, southwestern mills produced 24,587,451 barrels of flour compared to 26,120,155 barrels produced in the preceding wheat year.

Production for June and the wheat year, as compiled from weekly reports to the Northwestern Miller, is shown in the following table:

	MONTH OF JUNE		WHEAT YEAR	
	1931	1930	1930-31	1929-30
	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels
Atchison.....	108,604	124,068	1,545,399	1,511,319
Kansas City.....	577,262	623,007	7,642,862	7,849,416
Omaha.....	79,538	103,061	1,189,309	1,228,364
Salina.....	162,010	153,100	2,197,037	1,931,015
St. Joseph.....	15,459	91,439	410,393	1,451,320
Wichita.....	103,380	135,096	1,589,767	1,849,797
Outside.....	602,931	803,856	10,012,684	10,298,924
Total.....	1,649,184	2,033,627	24,587,451	26,120,155

The daily decline in wheat prices the last week in June and the first two weeks in July was reflected in an average price decline of approximately 85 cents per barrel in flour quotations. Lower prices resulted in an improved export inquiry, but domestic demand continued on the hand-to-mouth basis, orders being for small lots calling for immediate to 90-day shipment. The second week in July, however, witnessed an improved demand for flour in the southwest and bookings during that week were about normal for the period, several large orders being placed and shipping directions extended. The millfeed market continued weak during June and the forepart of July.

## Crops

The July forecast of the United States Department of Agriculture, based on the July 1 acreage and condition of crops, indicated an increased acreage and production of winter wheat, corn, oats, and flaxseed and a decreased acreage and production of spring wheat, tame hay, wild hay, sugar beets and dry, edible beans in the seven states of this District in 1931 as compared to 1930. The acreage of rye, barley, alfalfa hay, and white potatoes was larger but the July 1 condition indicated the crop would be short of last year. The acreage and yield of timothy

and clover meadows was estimated as less than the 1930 production. An increase in the production of apples, peaches, pears, and grapes was also indicated. The cotton acreage was decreased but no July 1 estimate of production was made.

The 1931 United States production, based on the July 1 acreage and condition, of winter wheat, corn, barley, white potatoes, sugar beets, beans, apples, peaches, and pears was forecast as above the five-year (1925-1929) average, whereas the production of spring wheat, oats, rye, all varieties of hay, sweet potatoes, sorghum for syrup, flaxseed, and grapes was estimated as below the average.

Hot dry weather the last two weeks in June and the forepart of July, although favorable for harvest of wheat, oats, rye, and barley, was injurious to growing crops, especially corn, cotton potatoes, sugar beets, alfalfa, and pastures. Scattered showers the second and third weeks of July gave relief to some localities but rains are needed generally as the average rainfall is below normal and there is a deficiency of subsoil moisture.

**WINTER WHEAT:** Harvest of winter wheat in the Tenth District was practically completed by July 21 under generally ideal harvest weather conditions. Hot weather the last two weeks in June did some damage to the crop in the western part of the District but the crop was too far advanced to be affected to any considerable extent and threshing returns exceeded earlier estimates of production. The moisture content of the wheat is low but the protein content is not up to that of 1930.

According to July estimates of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Kansas, the principal winter wheat producing state of the nation, will have a crop of 200,896,000 bushels of winter wheat, the largest of record for that state, with yields averaging 16 bushels per acre compared to the 1930 average of 13.5 bushels per acre. Every state in the District reported a crop above the five-year average, but Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska reported this year's crop as smaller than last year's. Tenth District production is estimated at 350,636,000 bushels compared to 300,633,000 bushels produced in 1930.

Railroad and elevator facilities are adequate for the orderly marketing of the crop, but producers, due to the unprecedented low prices, are disposing of only such quantities as their immediate financial needs demand.

The July 1 condition of all spring wheat in the United States promises a crop of only 156,402,000 bushels, the second smallest in the past twenty years.

The condition of the Canadian spring wheat crop on June 30 was given as 56 percent, the lowest condition reported since 1908, and compares with a condition of 92 percent at the corresponding time last year.

## ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF LEADING FARM CROPS IN SEVEN STATES AND THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

From Reports of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and State Boards of Agriculture

(Figures are in thousands of units, 000 omitted.)

	Winter Wheat		Spring Wheat		Corn		Oats		Barley		Potatoes		Tame Hay	
	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield	July Est.	Yield
	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930
Colorado.....	14,975	19,300	3,072	4,868	30,160	41,234	5,280	6,700	11,067	14,612	13,250	15,400	2,736	2,765
Kansas.....	200,896	166,185	128	440	129,344	82,908	46,168	40,341	10,540	10,580	4,252	4,955	2,252	2,126
Missouri.....	23,870	17,052	104	168	177,799	73,935	48,222	44,660	625	452	4,480	6,206	3,554	2,849
Nebraska.....	55,505	71,974	1,540	3,008	262,496	247,106	62,868	83,720	18,879	24,086	10,000	9,900	3,002	3,709
New Mexico.....	4,608	1,501	432	420	5,112	3,612	988	735	253	216	350	350	356	321
Oklahoma.....	69,632	36,708	-----	-----	56,538	36,436	47,104	29,232	3,045	1,540	4,087	3,997	636	520
Wyoming.....	2,052	2,235	1,320	2,548	4,086	3,696	2,860	3,888	2,355	3,626	2,625	3,000	1,033	1,144
Seven States.....	371,538	314,955	6,596	11,452	665,535	488,927	213,490	209,276	46,764	55,112	39,044	43,808	13,569	13,434
TENTH DISTRICT.....	350,636	300,633	6,345	11,141	519,998	427,107	172,251	171,858	46,173	54,415	35,006	38,398	10,453	10,914
United States.....	712,611	612,268	156,402	251,162	2,967,953	2,093,552	1,306,267	1,358,052	266,618	334,971	396,451	343,236	79,107	77,850



**CORN:** The 1931 acreage of corn is larger than in 1930 in all Tenth District states except Kansas and Oklahoma, the former reporting a reduction of 276,000 acres and the latter showing no change. The July 1 condition promised a larger total production than was realized in 1930 in all states except Colorado, which produced an exceptionally good crop last year. Indications are that this year's production will exceed the five-year average, all states showing an estimated increase except Oklahoma, where corn has suffered most from heat and lack of moisture. Missouri reports the greatest increase in prospects, as compared to last year's final results, of any of the seven states.

Corn is in an excellent state of cultivation and much of it is laid by, with early planted corn in the silk and tassel stage. Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri report corn prospects excellent but the reserve supply of subsoil moisture is below normal and frequent and ample rainfall the next six weeks will be needed for satisfactory maturity.

**COTTON:** The cotton acreage of the United States and the states of Missouri and New Mexico has been reduced 10 percent and that of Oklahoma 17 percent. The area in cultivation in the cotton belt of the United States July 1, 1931 was 41,491,000 acres compared with 46,078,000 acres in cultivation a year ago and is the smallest acreage since 1923.

Cotton is in bloom in Oklahoma and fields are reported clean. Plants suffered from drought in June and some boll weevil infestation is reported. The Oklahoma crop was reported in fair to good condition the second week in July but rains were needed.

**HAY:** Tame hay production in this District is estimated as under the five-year average for all states except Colorado. Every state in the District but Colorado reported an increased acreage of alfalfa and a decreased acreage of clover and timothy as compared to 1930. Alfalfa is being cut for the second time and yields are light, due to heat, dry weather, and insect injury.

**POTATOES:** Digging of potatoes has begun in the Orrick region of Missouri and the Kaw Valley district of Kansas, and results of early diggings indicate per acre yields will run 40 percent below normal. The hot weather checked growth, reducing July 1 estimates of the Kaw Valley crop to 1,518,000 bushels from 2,347,000 bushels as of June 1, compared to 2,367,000 bushels July 1, 1930. Prices are 25 cents per hundred pounds below last year.

A larger acreage and a larger prospective crop of sweet potatoes were forecast for all states than in 1930, but indications were that the total production would be under the ten-year average.

**FRUIT:** Better fruit prospects in all states for all varieties, except cherries in Colorado and grapes and pears in Nebraska, are forecast. Taking the District as a whole, the July 1 condition of apples, pears, and grapes was below, and of peaches above, the ten-year (1920-1929) average. In Missouri and Kansas the July 1 condition of all varieties of fruit was above the ten-year average and in Oklahoma it was below. Apricot harvest has begun in the Colorado River Valley and early varieties of apples and peaches are moving to market from the Ozark district in Missouri.

**OTHER CROPS:** Less oats and rye and approximately the same amount of barley will be produced this year as last. Oats were damaged somewhat by heat and rust just before harvest. Rye did poorly in Nebraska. The sugar beet area of western Kansas and Nebraska and Colorado is smaller this year than last and the July 1 condition in Kansas and Nebraska was below the ten-year average, but in Colorado the condition was four points better. The Kansas broom corn acreage has been reduced 60 percent. A decreased acreage and production of dry beans is forecast for the District.

## Livestock

Marketings of livestock at the six principal Tenth District markets during the first six months of 1931 were lighter than usual for all classes except sheep, which were heavier than for any like period in the thirteen years records have been compiled. Fewer cattle, with the exception of 1929, and fewer hogs, with the exception of 1926, were received at these markets during the period than in any corresponding six months of record. Receipts of calves and horses and mules were the smallest since 1922.

June receipts of all classes of livestock except hogs, which declined 8.8 percent, were larger than in June, 1930. June receipts of cattle and calves were the largest for that month since 1927, and of sheep the largest for any June of record. Marketings of hogs, including those shipped direct to packers' yards, although the largest since February, were the smallest for any June of record.

Reports from sixty-five public stockyards in the United States indicate that 7.4 percent fewer cattle, 15.8 percent fewer hogs, 1.3 percent more calves, and 34.4 percent more sheep were marketed in June this year than the five year average for that month.

Four Tenth District markets reported fewer cattle shipped to the country for stock and feeding purposes in June than in any month in the eleven years records have been kept, and the six months' total was also the smallest of record. Countryward movement of calves during June was the smallest for that month since 1926 and the outgo of sheep the largest since 1928. Fewer hogs were shipped to the country than in any June since 1921, with the exception of June last year, and the six months' total was the smallest of record.

In the United States the June countryward movement of cattle, calves, and hogs was 33.1, 27.6, and 33.7 percent, respectively, under the five-year June average, but the outgo of sheep was 18.9 percent greater.

Livestock on ranges were reported generally in as good condition July 1 as one month earlier, although range conditions were the lowest for that date in nine years and lower in all Tenth District states except Kansas. Ranges and pastures were reported dry and suffering from lack of moisture, especially in the mountain areas. The hay crop in the several states is reported short or average, with a shortage of irrigation water reported from Wyoming. All states report an excellent calf crop but cattle trading is dull. Colorado and Wyoming report a good lamb crop with lambing about completed. Shearing is about over, with the average fleece weighing above normal. The Wyoming wool market was active in June with prices ranging from 12 to 16 cents per pound or 6 to 8 cents under last year, and these low prices have resulted in a large amount of wool being consigned.

**PRICES:** Following an advance of \$1.50 to \$1.75 for hogs and \$1 to \$1.50 for cattle the first two weeks in June, prices worked lower the closing weeks of the month. Fat hogs selling up to \$7.45 at Kansas City on June 18 closed the month at \$6.90 as compared to \$10.20 one year earlier. Yearling steers topped the market at \$8.85 June 16, but closed the month only 50 cents above the May close with other classes of cattle mostly steady to 50 cents lower than in May. The June, 1930 top for steers was \$13.50. Under record breaking supplies containing an unusually large proportion of ewes, wethers and low grade lambs, sheep values continued to decline during June, lambs closing the month \$2.50 lower than in May and fat ewes selling at the lowest levels on record. On June 1, western lambs sold up to \$9.85 as compared to the June, 1930 top of \$12.25 but closed the month at \$7.35.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported the average price of stocker and feeder cattle the first week in July was \$5.08 per hundred pounds at Kansas City, the lowest average ever reported since this information was first compiled in 1925. The average price for the week was 81 cents lower than in the preceding week, and \$2.31 lower than in the corresponding week last year. In the week ended August 15 last year, when drought conditions were the worst, the average price was \$5.99. The demand for heavy weight steers the forepart of July was sluggish, but lightweights and yearlings moved at steady to strong prices. On July 17 hogs of 190 to 210 pounds average topped the market at \$7.45, equalling the top of June 18. The July 17 top on native lambs was \$7.50.

**JUNE PIG SURVEY:** An increase of 18 percent in the fall pig crop in the United States and an increase of 21 percent in the corn belt states is indicated by the June pig survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. The report shows an intended increase in the number of sows bred or to be bred for farrowing in the fall of 1931 of 37 percent for the United States, and 35 percent for the North Central states, but the difference in actual fall farrowings and June breeding intentions for the past four years has amounted to a decrease of 19 points for the United States and 14 points for the corn belt. This is the second largest increase in breeding intentions shown in nine years. Kansas farmers intended to breed 59 percent more sows than in 1930, the largest increase in intentions being shown for the principal wheat producing sections.

An increase of 2.5 percent in the nation's spring pig crop, due primarily to an increase of 2.5 percent in the number of pigs saved this spring over last, is also disclosed by the report.

**Meat Packing**

As measured by the number of meat animals purchased by packers at six public stockyards in this District, including hogs shipped direct to packers' yards, the June slaughter of sheep was the largest and of hogs the smallest for any June on records beginning in 1919. There was little change from the June totals of other years in the number of cattle purchased for slaughter although more calves were killed during the month than in any June since 1927.

The first half-year slaughter of sheep was, with the exception of 1930, the largest on thirteen years' records. Fewer cattle were killed during the period than in any like period of record and the slaughter of calves was the smallest since 1922 and of hogs the smallest since 1927.

From January to June, inclusive, there were 1.0 percent more cattle, 0.6 percent more calves, 7.2 percent more sheep, and 1.0 percent fewer hogs slaughtered under Federal meat inspection in the United States than in the same period last year.

**Cold Storage Holdings**

The July 1 cold storage holdings of all meats except pork, and of butter, cheese, and eggs were below holdings as of July 1, 1930. Storage stocks of beef, pork, poultry, lard, eggs in cases, and cheese were below the July 1 five-year average, but holdings of mutton, miscellaneous meats, frozen eggs, and butter were above the five-year average. During June there was a seasonal in-storage movement of lamb, lard, eggs, butter, and cheese.

The July 1 cold storage holdings in the United States, as reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics:

	*July 1 1931	*June 1 1931	July 1 1930	July 1 5-Yr. Av.
Beef, lbs.....	45,522	49,169	66,891	48,725
Pork, lbs.....	776,140	827,743	679,221	776,593
Lamb and mutton, lbs.....	2,722	2,331	4,820	2,612
Poultry, lbs.....	32,735	35,348	54,253	44,256
*Turkeys, lbs.....	3,085	3,895	7,469	6,666
Miscellaneous meats, lbs.....	74,969	79,351	87,980	69,961
Lard, lbs.....	115,873	103,456	120,322	160,469
Eggs, cases.....	9,495	7,887	10,743	9,791
Eggs, frozen (case equivalent)...	3,240	3,046	3,290	2,312
Butter, creamery, lbs.....	89,286	35,155	106,522	89,025
Cheese, all varieties, lbs.....	72,327	55,939	90,421	74,948

\*Subject to revision. \*\*Included in Poultry. (000 omitted).  
By Presidential proclamation the tariff rate on dried eggs has been increased from 18 cents to 27 cents per pound. The present tariff rate on frozen eggs is 11 cents per pound, shell eggs 10 cents per dozen, live poultry 8 cents per pound, and dressed poultry 10 cents per pound.

**Lumber**

Contrary to the usual seasonal trend there was an increase of 0.3 percent in sales of lumber in board feet at 172 retail yards of this District in June as compared to May. June sales in the years 1930, 1929, 1928, and 1927 were 19.9, 18.8, 16.1, and 6.2 percent, respectively, less than in May. June sales were 9.8 percent less than in June, 1930, and showed a smaller decline from the total for the corresponding month last year than any of the preceding months this year, except January.

Total sales in board feet for the six months of the current year were 27.2 percent less than in the corresponding six months of 1930 and the dollar volume of all materials sold was 34.7 percent smaller.

June business at the reporting yards is given in the following table in percentages of increase or decrease:

	June 1931 compared to	
	May 1931	June 1930
Sales of lumber, board feet.....	0.3	- 9.8
Sales of all materials, dollars.....	-12.2	-27.0
Stocks of lumber, board feet.....	- 2.8	-12.7
Outstandings, end of month.....	1.9	-23.5
Collections during month.....	- 8.9	-42.9

Reports from 648 identical mills to the National Lumber Manufacturers Association indicate that lumber production in the United States during the twenty-six weeks' period ended

**JUNE MOVEMENTS OF LIVESTOCK IN THE TENTH DISTRICT**

	RECEIPTS				STOCKERS AND FEEDERS				PURCHASED FOR SLAUGHTER			
	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
Kansas City.....	103,271	20,889	*240,435	162,132	18,356	2,099	3,231	11,173	53,781	15,215	*202,733	123,427
Omaha.....	137,519	5,321	319,391	190,378	4,935	486	2,043	37,008	84,469	4,658	218,803	146,492
St. Joseph.....	31,372	8,344	112,212	131,998	3,213	923	3,029	10,706	23,780	6,945	76,713	108,177
Denver.....	24,722	3,680	51,222	102,094	9,575	795	932	5,330	9,781	2,358	38,583	15,665
Oklahoma City.....	13,158	7,665	18,347	17,697	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,743	7,009	14,920	10,287
Wichita.....	12,398	4,134	36,030	12,551	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,635	1,992	33,669	11,329
June 1931.....	322,440	50,033	777,637	616,850	36,079	4,303	9,235	64,217	184,189	38,177	585,421	415,377
May 1931.....	330,943	37,985	770,491	792,506	45,503	4,548	8,935	99,771	184,066	29,372	608,793	445,031
June 1930.....	312,156	43,849	852,650	503,333	40,221	6,449	8,552	52,826	192,434	32,156	677,416	379,017
6 Months 1931.....	2,022,055	258,814	4,925,383	4,575,202	385,524	39,980	49,459	488,509	1,065,485	186,208	3,769,447	2,592,972
6 Months 1930.....	2,125,720	301,557	5,478,700	4,374,078	448,404	55,655	80,226	386,626	1,103,067	200,713	3,963,240	2,804,098

\* Includes 140,780 hogs shipped direct to packers' yards.



BUILDING PERMITS IN TENTH DISTRICT CITIES

	MONTH OF JUNE				SIX MONTHS			
	Permits		Value		Permits		Value	
	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930
Albuquerque, N. M.	60	84	\$ 69,585	\$ 86,976	386	522	\$ 1,125,049	\$ 922,886
Cheyenne, Wyo.	44	45	41,125	41,180	175	173	205,470	294,990
Colorado Springs, Colo.	34	50	18,895	329,923	259	298	183,884	654,118
Denver, Colo.	400	513	403,700	805,800	2,276	2,705	4,279,990	4,002,800
Hutchinson, Kans.	25	22	46,000	17,600	172	219	207,364	1,244,819
Joplin, Mo.	20	47	13,246	103,000	116	142	337,625	622,572
Kansas City, Kans.	54	66	21,980	126,700	302	373	443,398	775,230
Kansas City, Mo.	197	196	970,900	829,450	1,155	1,109	3,599,550	8,202,075
Lincoln, Nebr.	76	79	115,960	195,215	326	333	479,543	1,052,475
Oklahoma City, Okla.	165	325	1,015,815	1,572,491	1,261	1,823	9,843,405	10,484,780
Omaha, Nebr.	104	80	195,916	488,865	549	424	2,329,614	3,586,844
Pueblo, Colo.	72	130	103,943	42,951	437	577	275,748	329,589
Salina, Kans.	9	28	10,150	58,685	100	144	147,937	333,747
Shawnee, Okla.	9	24	5,265	21,652	58	147	110,905	204,767
St. Joseph, Mo.	41	48	26,740	27,870	268	253	293,511	615,193
Topeka, Kans.	57	74	68,570	106,795	329	357	420,930	1,885,686
Tulsa, Okla.	125	202	85,987	1,015,570	899	1,196	2,762,482	4,337,830
Wichita, Kans.	87	148	359,202	700,325	637	982	1,213,831	3,602,304
Total 18 cities	1,579	2,161	\$4,345,979	\$6,571,048	9,705	11,777	\$28,260,236	\$43,152,705

July 4 this year, was only 66 percent as great as in the like period last year, 44 percent of normal, and 64 percent of the average for the past three years. Production of softwoods declined 33 percent and of hardwoods 42 percent. Shipments during the period were only 76 percent and orders received 77 percent as great as in 1930, and both softwoods and hardwoods shared equally in the declines.

Cement

There was about the usual seasonal decrease in the production of Portland cement at mills in this District in June as compared to May, the total being 3.8 percent smaller than in the preceding month, but there was a decline of 8.4 percent from the corresponding month last year. For the third consecutive month shipments exceeded production, reducing stocks as of June 30 to the lowest month-end level since November, 1930.

All mills in the United States, as reported by the United States Bureau of Mines, produced more Portland cement in June than in any month since October, 1930 and shipments were the largest since September of that year. Mills operated at 65.4 percent of capacity in June, 1931, as compared to 81.4 percent in June, 1930.

Production, shipments, and month-end stocks of cement in the Tenth District and the United States is shown in the following table in thousands of barrels:

	TENTH DISTRICT			UNITED STATES		
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments	Stocks
June 1931	1,485	1,581	2,339	14,125	16,094	27,585
May 1931	1,544	1,607	2,435	14,010	14,200	29,554
June 1930	1,622	1,700	2,287	17,239	18,781	29,364
6 Mos. 1931	5,762	5,790	60,140	58,436	.....	.....
6 Mos. 1930	7,467	7,088	75,894	70,138	.....	.....

Building

There was less residential construction in the Tenth District during June than in any month of the six years covered by reports of the F. W. Dodge Corporation. The total for June was 7.9 percent less than in May and 43.2 percent less than in June, 1930. The value of total building contracts issued in the District as a whole in June, although slightly larger than in the two preceding months, was the smallest for any June on six years' records and was 74.3 percent smaller than in June, 1930.

The half year value of both residential and total building contracts was the lowest reported for any half year on record and was 45.5 and 47 percent, respectively, under the first half of last year.

Eighteen Tenth District cities issued fewer building permits

in June and the first six months of 1931 than in any June and six months' period in the twelve years the reports have been received. The estimated cost of construction was also the smallest for any June or six months' period of record.

The F. W. Dodge Corporation report on building activity in the Tenth District and the United States:

TOTAL BUILDING CONTRACTS AWARDED

	TENTH DISTRICT		UNITED STATES	
	1931	1930	1931	1930
June	\$16,363,450	\$ 63,727,271	\$ 331,879,700	\$ 600,573,400
May	13,954,367	17,216,399	306,079,100	457,416,000
Six Months	90,453,370	170,664,789	1,808,226,800	2,639,388,300

RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTS AWARDED

	TENTH DISTRICT		UNITED STATES	
	1931	1930	1931	1930
June	\$ 1,960,792	\$ 3,451,159	\$ 72,744,700	\$ 96,815,500
May	2,129,151	3,385,148	88,899,600	116,568,500
Six Months	13,220,709	24,238,426	490,746,600	577,412,600

Petroleum

Crude oil prices in the Mid-Continent area were reduced an additional 15 cents per barrel the second week in July by many of the major purchasing companies. Posted prices for 40 degree gravity oil were reduced from 37 cents to 22 cents per barrel and low gravity oil from 25 cents to 10 cents per barrel. Not all purchasing companies reduced their schedule and several that did had returned to the previous price basis by July 21. The average price paid for crude oil during July, 1930 was \$1.30 per barrel.

There was a slight decline in the daily average production of crude oil in the five oil producing states of this District in June as compared to the preceding month, and gross production for the shorter month of June was 8.3 percent smaller than in May and 12.6 percent smaller than in June, 1930. Tenth District production during the six months of the current year was 9.0 percent smaller than in the like period last year.

The gross production figures for the five states and the United States are shown in the following:

GROSS PRODUCTION

	*June 1931	May 1931	June 1930	*6 Mos. 1931	6 Mos. 1930
	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels
Oklahoma	16,706,000	18,427,000	19,382,000	99,439,000	113,835,000
Kansas	3,095,000	3,245,000	4,064,000	18,937,000	21,247,000
Wyoming	1,251,000	1,327,000	1,421,000	7,793,000	8,974,000
Colorado	133,000	130,000	131,000	791,000	845,000
New Mexico	1,315,000	1,400,000	733,000	7,365,000	2,685,000
Total	22,500,000	24,529,000	25,731,000	134,325,000	147,586,000
United States	74,009,000	77,164,000	76,513,000	420,307,000	465,610,000

\* June 1931, estimated, American Petroleum Institute.

The effect of low prices for crude oil is evidenced by the curtailment of field operations, and, with the exception of May this year, fewer wells were completed in June than in any month in the 13 years records have been kept.

The number of rigs up and wells drilling on July 1 was the smallest of record and marked the twelfth consecutive month that declines have been recorded.

Following is the summary of June operations in this District:

	Wells Completed	Barrels Daily New Production	Dry Wells	Gas Wells	Rigs-Wells Drilling
Oklahoma.....	104	176,910	31	24	333
Kansas.....	47	21,260	14	12	159
Wyoming.....	5	226	2	0	97
Colorado.....	5	0	4	1	81
New Mexico.....	3	1,523	0	2	56
June 1931.....	164	199,919	51	39	726
May 1931.....	112	48,461	54	20	764
June 1930.....	524	451,523	145	52	1,674
6 Mos. 1931.....	1,053	1,568,030	349	188	.....
6 Mos. 1930.....	2,544	2,639,658	798	251	.....

There has been a rapid rise in the daily average number of barrels of crude oil run to Mid-Continent refinery stills since March, the low point of the year, to July 1, when the daily average exceeded 585,000 barrels, the highest in the history of that area.

### Zinc and Lead Mining

Mines in Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma produced less zinc ore and lead ore during the first half of 1931 than in any corresponding period in the eight years covered by our records. Compared to the first twenty-six weeks of 1930, zinc ore and lead ore production declined 46.1 percent and 45.3 percent, respectively.

During the four weeks ended June 27 zinc ore production decreased 8.7 percent but lead ore production increased 1.2 percent as compared to the preceding four weeks ended May 30. Compared to the corresponding four weeks ended June 28, 1930, zinc ore production decreased 65.6 percent and lead ore production decreased 76.0 percent.

## Business Conditions in the United States

### By the Federal Reserve Board

Industrial production showed more than the usual seasonal decline in June and factory employment and pay rolls decreased. Wholesale prices, which had continued to decline until the end of May, advanced in June, but for most commodities declined again in the first half of July.

**PRODUCTION:** A decrease in industrial output from May to June was reflected in a decline in the Board's index of industrial production, which is adjusted for seasonal variations, to 86 percent of the 1923-1925 output, as compared with 89 percent in May. Taking the second quarter of the year as a whole, production has averaged about 4 percent above its low level in the last three months of 1930. The reduction of activity in June was most marked in the iron and steel industry, with steel plants operating at 38 percent of capacity.

Automobile output declined further, and there was some recession in production of lumber, meat products, and flour. Petroleum output, however, was not reduced.

Activity of textile mills and shoe factories continued in relatively large volume. In the woolen industry, activity was sustained at the unusually high level of May and the decline in the consumption of cotton was not in excess of the usual seasonal amount. During the first half of July there were further reductions, partly seasonal in nature, in output of steel, automobiles, and lumber.

Factory employment was further reduced by nearly 3 percent, and payrolls declined by six percent between the middle of May and the middle of June. The largest decreases were in the steel, machinery, and women's clothing industries, while reductions in automobile plants and cotton mills were partly seasonal in character, and employment in woolen and hosiery mills increased.

Building contracts awarded in June were somewhat larger than in May, but declined again in the first half of July. Since the early spring awards have not increased as much as is usual for the season. In residential building there has been relatively little change for about a year and a half, except for seasonal fluctuations, and the decline in construction has been chiefly in other types of building, principally public works and utilities.

Shipments of zinc ore and lead ore from the three states in twenty-six weeks were as follows:

### SHIPMENTS IN TWENTY-SIX WEEKS

	ZINC ORE		LEAD ORE	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
Oklahoma.....	88,576	\$2,110,485	10,337	\$ 455,874
Kansas.....	42,621	1,029,901	3,236	145,790
Missouri.....	1,468	36,008	726	30,417
26 Wks. to June 27, 1931.....	132,665	\$3,176,394	14,299	\$ 632,081
26 Wks. to June 28, 1930.....	246,234	8,491,154	26,619	1,818,189

There was a slight upturn in zinc ore prices the last week in June and the first week in July, when quotations advanced \$1 per ton during each period to \$25 per ton as compared to \$29 per ton one year earlier. In the final week in June, lead ore prices advanced \$10 to \$12 per ton to a basis of \$40 to \$42 per ton as compared to \$60 per ton in the corresponding week of 1930.

### Bituminous Coal

June production of soft coal in the six coal producing states of the Tenth District was seasonally the smallest of the year and was 16.6 percent, or slightly more than the usual seasonal amount, smaller than in May. The June total was 20.0 percent less than for the like month last year, and was the smallest monthly total reported since May, 1922, and the smallest June total on records covering the past twelve years.

Production during June and the half-year in the Tenth District and the United States is shown in the following table:

	*June 1931	May 1931	June 1930	*6 Mos. 1931	6 Mos. 1930
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Colorado.....	268,000	395,000	392,000	3,008,000	3,881,000
Kansas.....	135,000	147,000	115,000	1,147,000	1,086,000
Missouri.....	173,000	179,000	225,000	1,309,000	1,703,000
New Mexico.....	113,000	120,000	140,000	778,000	970,000
Oklahoma.....	90,000	76,000	125,000	717,000	1,204,000
Wyoming.....	279,000	352,000	325,000	2,166,000	2,670,000
Six States.....	1,058,000	1,269,000	1,322,000	9,125,000	11,514,000
United States.....	29,165,000	28,314,000	33,714,000	189,777,000	230,634,000

\* June estimated.

**DISTRIBUTION:** At department stores, daily average sales were seasonally smaller in June than in May. Freight car loadings were also reduced, reflecting principally a further reduction in loadings of miscellaneous commodities.

**PRICES:** During June wholesale prices of many commodities advanced considerably, after having reached low levels late in May and early in June. Prices of livestock and meats increased and after June 21 there were rapid advances in prices of raw materials important in world markets, especially cotton, hides, sugar, silk, copper, silver, and rubber. Subsequently, however, most of these prices receded somewhat, although in mid-July they were, in general, above their lowest levels.

The price of wheat declined during June and the first half of July, as the domestic price became adjusted to world levels.

**BANK CREDIT:** At reporting member banks in leading cities, loans on securities continued to decline between the middle of June and the middle of July while all other loans increased by \$140,000,000. This increase was concentrated at New York City banks, and was largely in the form of acceptances purchased in the open market. Member banks' investments continued at about the same level as in May and early June.

Notwithstanding a further addition of \$77,000,000 to the country's stock of monetary gold between the weeks ending June 20 and July 18, there was no decrease in Federal reserve bank credit outstanding. During the period the reserve banks' portfolio of United States securities was increased by \$75,000,000 while their combined holdings of acceptances and of discounts for member banks decreased by approximately the same amount. The gold inflow provided member banks with funds to meet an added demand for currency, as well as to increase their balances with the reserve banks.

There was also a considerable growth in foreign bank deposits with the reserve banks.

Money rates continued at low levels.