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

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

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No. 11

BUSINESS activity in the Tenth Federal Reserve District during September was sustained at a level above that of a year ago. Retail and wholesale distribution, which had displayed some hesitancy in August, expanded somewhat more than seasonally in September with the arrival of cooler weather and maintained the previously recorded gains over last year. The value of construction contracts awarded in the District increased substantially although retail sales of lumber declined during the month. The demand for credit at reporting member banks, while still in small volume, has increased about 13 per cent during the year.

The production of flour, crude petroleum, and cement, although continuing at high levels for the month during the past five years, declined slightly during September, while the production of bituminous coal and shipments of zinc and lead increased. All production lines showed an increase in output compared to September, 1935. Meat packing operations were heavier than at this time last year, with the slaughter of cattle and calves at a high level for the month.

Market receipts of grain declined substantially and were much below normal for September. Receipts of live stock increased although marketings of cattle, hogs, and sheep fell somewhat below the ten-year average. The countryward movement of stocker and feeder live stock increased seasonally. Prices of wheat, cattle, and lambs strengthened in September but prices of corn weakened slightly and hog prices declined sharply. Grain prices generally advanced and live stock prices weakened the forepart of October.

September weather conditions were generally favorable for the growth and maturity of late crops remaining for harvest after the extreme drought and high temperatures of the preceding three months which had resulted in considerable abandonment and had reduced prospective yields much below normal. Harvesting of late crops and the extensive preparation of seedbeds and drilling of winter grains were progressing rapidly early in October. The rains revived pastures but in much of the District the reserve of subsoil moisture as affecting next year's crops was still low. The fall growth in native pastures and the improvement in early seeded winter grains following the rains will help to relieve the feed shortage this year.

Member Bank Operations

Loans and discounts of fifty-two reporting member banks in the Tenth District showed little change between September 9 and October 7 when loans and discounts were 13 per cent greater than on October 9, 1935, reflecting principally an increase in "all other" loans, which include loans to customers for agricultural, commercial, and industrial purposes. Investment holdings were enlarged 3.4 per cent during the four weeks, reflecting chiefly an increase in holdings of United States Government direct obligations, and on October 7 were 7.3

BUSINESS IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	In Percentages of Increase or Decrease		9 Months 1936 compared to 9 Months 1935
	Aug. 1936	Sept. 1936 compared to Sept. 1935	
Banking			
Payments by check, 29 cities.....	- 2.3	+ 3.0	+12.8
Federal Reserve Bank check collections	- 2.1	+ 8.8	+11.9
Business failures, number.....	-21.9	-16.7	- 4.9
Business failures, liabilities.....	+ 2.1	- 1.0	+18.8
Loans, 52 member banks.....	- 0.7	+13.0	.....
Investments, 52 member banks.....	+ 3.4	+ 7.3	.....
Adjusted dem. depts., 52 member banks	+ 0.7	+10.4	.....
Time deposits, 52 member banks.....	Even	+ 0.4	.....
Savings deposits, 45 selected banks.....	+ 0.6	+ 2.9	.....
Savings accounts, 45 selected banks.....	- 0.1	+ 2.4	.....
Distribution			
Wholesalers' sales, 5 lines combined.....	+ 4.4	+ 7.7	+ 9.4
Retailers' sales, 31 department stores....	+27.1	+ 8.7	+ 8.1
Lumber sales, 158 retail yards.....	-14.5	+28.7	+34.1
Life insurance, written.....	-13.2	- 0.8	- 1.9
Construction			
Building contracts awarded, value.....	+73.2	+32.4	+59.4
Residential contracts awarded, value.....	+85.7	+138.2	+71.2
Building permits in 18 cities, value.....	-38.5	-10.2	+58.0
Production			
Flour.....	- 2.8	+ 8.2	+ 3.0
Crude petroleum.....	- 4.9	+14.3	+ 9.5
Bituminous coal.....	+26.4	+23.6	+17.8
Zinc ore (shipped) Tri-State district....	+25.5	+ 3.6	+19.1
Lead ore (shipped) Tri-State district....	+29.6	+18.8	+30.3
Cement.....	- 1.0	+96.4	+32.3
Grain receipts, 5 markets			
Wheat.....	-52.1	-63.5	+29.2
Corn.....	-41.9	+65.6	+63.4
Oats.....	-66.3	-68.1	+ 3.6
Rye.....	-69.0	-67.7	+30.4
Barley.....	-79.5	-84.9	+30.9
Kafir.....	-48.6	+55.4	+97.2
Live stock receipts, 6 markets			
Cattle.....	+ 0.4	- 2.3	+ 5.8
Calves.....	+ 6.0	+15.5	+ 0.2
Hogs.....	+ 2.9	+63.2	+30.5
Sheep.....	+45.6	+18.5	- 1.6
Horses and mules.....	- 1.5	-29.0	-23.0
Meat packing, 6 markets			
Cattle.....	- 1.8	+23.1	+21.1
Calves.....	+13.9	+38.8	+ 7.6
Hogs.....	- 0.8	+56.7	+31.9
Sheep.....	+21.4	+18.8	- 7.3
Stocker and feeder shipments, 4 markets			
Cattle.....	+27.2	-26.2	-15.5
Calves.....	+29.9	- 2.1	-26.0
Hogs.....	+78.9	+332.6	+29.1
Sheep.....	+24.2	-18.0	+10.2

per cent greater than one year earlier, reflecting increases of about an equal amount in holdings of direct Government obligations and in holdings of other securities. Reserve balances of these member banks, which had increased to a record high level on August 26, subsequently declined somewhat but on October 7 were 41.3 per cent greater than a year ago.

Adjusted demand deposits, although below the high point of the year reached on August 12, showed a further fractional increase between September 9 and October 7 to a level 10.4 per cent above that of October 9, 1935. Balances held for domestic banks declined during the four weeks but had increased 11.3 per cent during the year.

The principal resource and liability items of the consolidated weekly condition statements of the fifty-two reporting banks, for the three dates of comparison:

	Oct. 7, 1936	Sept. 9, 1936	Oct. 9, 1935
Loans and investments—total.....	\$690,674,000	\$677,575,000	\$632,216,000
Loans and discounts—total.....	240,678,000	242,491,000	213,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds	51,278,000	51,366,000	46,018,000
All other loans and discounts	189,400,000	191,125,000	166,982,000
Investments—total.....	449,996,000	435,084,000	419,216,000
U. S. securities direct.....	264,804,000	252,408,000	247,018,000
Obligations fully guaranteed by the U. S. Government..	50,381,000	49,248,000	51,990,000
Other securities.....	134,811,000	133,428,000	120,208,000
Reserve with F. R. Bank.....	147,411,000	154,528,000	104,341,000
Demand deposits—adjusted.....	482,356,000	478,856,000	436,999,000
Time deposits.....	145,963,000	145,962,000	145,405,000
U. S. Government deposits.....	23,818,000	22,397,000	11,973,000
Inter-bank deposits:			
Domestic banks.....	396,174,000	410,544,000	356,087,000
Foreign banks.....	158,000	174,000	136,000

Reserve Bank Operations

Holdings of bills discounted for member banks increased fractionally from September 9 to October 7 but continued in small volume. Industrial advances and commitments to make industrial loans declined slightly and on October 7 were somewhat below the total of a year ago. Holdings of United States Government obligations, unchanged since July 1, were increased 2.4 per cent during the four weeks ended October 7 to a level 17.8 per cent greater than one year earlier. The increase during the four weeks reflected a reallocation of Government securities in the open market account of the Federal Reserve System by which the portfolio of this bank was increased \$2,928,000.

Federal Reserve note circulation on October 7 was fractionally smaller than the record high level reached four weeks earlier but was 15.2 per cent greater than on October 9, 1935. Member banks' reserve deposits, which had increased in the preceding five weeks, declined 3.7 per cent during the four weeks ended October 7, but showed an increase of 28.5 per cent for the year.

The principal resource and liability items of the weekly condition statements of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and branches, for the three dates of comparison:

	Oct. 7, 1936	Sept. 9, 1936	Oct. 9, 1935
Total reserves.....	\$258,915,086	\$269,724,827	\$205,809,978
Bills discounted.....	104,720	59,714	403,791
Bills purchased.....	87,214	87,128	126,581
Industrial advances.....	876,535	905,415	1,102,982
Commitments to make industrial advances.....	380,844	390,077	1,303,500
U. S. securities.....	125,855,000	122,927,000	106,844,200
Total bills and securities.....	126,923,469	123,979,257	108,658,554
Total resources.....	423,238,312	431,759,110	348,462,035
F. R. notes in circulation.....	154,806,505	155,908,025	134,356,810
Member banks' reserve deposits	219,389,586	227,779,518	170,763,525

The discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, on all classes of paper and all maturities, remained unchanged at 2 per cent.

Reserve Bank Check Collections

The dollar volume of check collections through this bank and branches during September was slightly smaller than in August but was 8.8 per cent larger than in September of last year. During the first three quarters of 1936, check collections increased 13.2 per cent in the number of items handled and 11.9 per cent in dollar volume as compared to a year ago.

Check collections through the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and branches at Omaha, Denver, and Oklahoma City:

	ITEMS		AMOUNT	
	1936	1935	1936	1935
September.....	5,749,875	5,376,451	\$ 914,630,000	\$ 840,919,000
August.....	5,707,494	5,280,320	934,125,000	894,135,000
Nine months....	53,420,507	47,210,007	8,357,448,000	7,467,755,000

Bank Debits

Debits to individual accounts by banks in twenty-nine reporting cities in the District were seasonally smaller during the four weeks ended September 30 than during the preceding four weeks ended September 2 but increased 3 per cent as compared to the corresponding four-week period of last year. Check payments for the first thirty-nine weeks of 1936 were 12.8 per cent greater than in the same period in 1935.

PAYMENTS BY CHECK

	FOUR WEEKS ENDED		Per cent Change
	Sept. 30, 1936	Oct. 2, 1935	
Albuquerque, N. M.....	\$ 10,916,000	\$ 9,751,000	+11.9
Atchison, Kans.....	2,969,000	3,357,000	-11.6
Bartlesville, Okla.....	24,004,000	21,428,000	+12.0
Casper, Wyo.....	5,633,000	4,582,000	+22.9
Cheyenne, Wyo.....	6,536,000	6,720,000	- 2.7
Colorado Springs, Colo.....	14,327,000	12,589,000	+13.8
Denver, Colo.....	144,347,000	134,421,000	+ 7.4
*Emporia, Kans.....	2,875,000	.....	.....
Enid, Okla.....	8,979,000	11,214,000	-19.9
Fremont, Nebr.....	2,603,000	2,291,000	+13.6
Grand Junction, Colo.....	3,379,000	2,887,000	+17.0
Guthrie, Okla.....	1,301,000	1,329,000	- 2.1
Hutchinson, Kans.....	11,210,000	13,221,000	-15.2
Independence, Kans.....	2,223,000	1,988,000	+11.8
Joplin, Mo.....	8,929,000	8,467,000	+ 5.5
Kansas City, Kans.....	11,856,000	9,760,000	+21.5
Kansas City, Mo.....	281,350,000	287,947,000	- 2.3
Lawrence, Kans.....	3,035,000	3,196,000	- 5.0
Lincoln, Nebr.....	25,614,000	23,810,000	+ 7.6
Muskogee, Okla.....	6,938,000	6,614,000	+ 4.9
Oklahoma City, Okla.....	78,306,000	81,170,000	- 3.5
Okmulgee, Okla.....	2,580,000	2,491,000	+ 3.6
Omaha, Nebr.....	146,589,000	132,291,000	+10.8
Pittsburg, Kans.....	3,420,000	3,189,000	+ 7.2
Pueblo, Colo.....	12,201,000	11,788,000	+ 3.5
Salina, Kans.....	8,947,000	9,431,000	- 5.1
St. Joseph, Mo.....	26,499,000	27,305,000	- 3.0
Topeka, Kans.....	14,514,000	12,387,000	+17.2
Tulsa, Okla.....	108,852,000	97,880,000	+11.2
Wichita, Kans.....	38,139,000	42,873,000	-11.0
Total 29 cities, 4 weeks.....	\$ 1,016,196,000	\$ 986,377,000	+ 3.0
Total 29 cities, 39 weeks.....	9,930,052,000	8,801,208,000	+12.8
U. S. 273 cities, 4 weeks.....	33,098,235,000	31,761,040,000	+ 4.2
U. S. 273 cities, 39 weeks.....	333,081,689,000	294,880,696,000	+13.0

*Not included in totals.

Savings

Savings deposits at forty-five selected banks in leading cities in the District, as in the preceding four months, showed a slight increase in September while the number of savings accounts declined slightly. Savings deposits on October 1 were 2.9 per cent and the number of accounts 2.4 per cent greater than on October 1, 1935.

Savings accounts and savings deposits reported by the forty-five banks:

	Savings Accounts	Savings Deposits
October 1, 1936.....	414,215	\$129,390,115
September 1, 1936.....	414,490	128,662,108
October 1, 1935.....	404,695	125,700,677

Business Failures

Commercial failures in the Tenth District during September were smaller in number and in the amount of liabilities involved than in September of last year and showed little change

RETAIL TRADE AT 31 DEPARTMENT STORES IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT
In Percentages of Increase or Decrease except Rate of Turnover

Stores Reporting	SALES		STOCKS (RETAIL)		STOCK TURNOVER				ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		AMOUNTS COLLECTED		
	Sept. 1936 compared to	Year 1936 compared to	Sept. 30, 1936 compared to	Sept. 30, 1935	Sept.		Year		Sept. 30, 1936 compared to		Sept. 1936 compared to		
	Sept. 1935	Year 1935	Aug. 31, 1936	Sept. 30, 1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	Aug. 31, 1936	Sept. 30, 1935	Aug. 1936	Sept. 1935	
Kansas City.....	4	+11.3	+ 6.6	+ 6.1	+ 1.1	.37	.35	2.79	2.56	+21.1	+ 6.8	- 2.4	- 1.8
Denver.....	4	+15.5	+12.0	+ 4.6	+10.1	.35	.34	2.81	2.69	+ 9.4	+ 4.8	+ 1.4	+10.8
Oklahoma City	3	- 0.9	+ 7.2	+ 5.4	+ 4.3	.39	.42	3.17	3.12	+18.9	+ 8.8	+ 5.2	+ 4.3
Tulsa.....	3	- 4.4	+ 8.2	+ 5.5	- 0.8	.37	.40	3.19	3.13	+23.0	- 8.5	- 5.8	+11.4
Wichita.....	3	+12.1	+ 5.6	+ 5.3	+10.0	.31	.30	2.52	2.45	+21.4	+ 3.2	Even	+ 4.2
Other cities.....	14	+ 6.9	+ 6.2	+ 8.8	+ 6.0	.27	.27	2.25	2.15	+19.9	+ 4.9	- 0.8	+ 3.5
Total.....	31	+ 8.7	+ 8.1	+ 6.3	+ 5.5	.34	.33	2.71	2.58	+16.4	+ 4.5	+ 0.1	+ 5.8

NOTE: Ratio of collections during month to regular accounts outstanding end of preceding month: September 42.1; August 41.8; September 1935, 40.6.

as compared to August of this year. During the first nine months of 1936, liabilities increased slightly over the low levels reached in 1935 while the number of failures continued to decline.

Business failures reported by Dun and Bradstreet, Incorporated:

	TENTH DISTRICT		UNITED STATES	
	Number	Liabilities	Number	Liabilities
September 1936.....	25	\$ 196,000	586	\$ 9,819,000
August 1936.....	32	192,000	655	8,271,000
September 1935.....	30	198,000	787	17,002,000
Nine months 1936.....	311	3,456,000	7,194	115,166,000
Nine months 1935.....	327	2,910,000	8,646	135,758,000

Life Insurance

Sales of new paid-for ordinary life insurance in the seven states in the District were somewhat less in September than in August but were about the same as in September, 1935. Sales for the first nine months of 1936 decreased 1.9 per cent compared to sales in the first nine months of last year.

Life insurance sales reported to the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau by companies representing 90 per cent of the total legal reserve ordinary life insurance outstanding in the United States:

	September 1936	August 1936	September 1935
Colorado.....	\$ 3,662,000	\$ 4,415,000	\$ 3,680,000
Kansas.....	3,805,000	5,101,000	3,923,000
Missouri.....	11,227,000	12,793,000	11,892,000
Nebraska.....	3,232,000	3,844,000	3,479,000
New Mexico.....	858,000	758,000	622,000
Oklahoma.....	4,536,000	4,754,000	4,196,000
Wyoming.....	883,000	817,000	648,000
Seven states.....	\$ 28,203,000	\$ 32,482,000	\$ 28,440,000
United States.....	426,344,000	451,612,000	413,716,000

Trade

RETAIL: With the advent of cooler weather, the dollar volume of sales at thirty-one reporting department stores in leading cities of the District increased by 27.1 per cent during September, or somewhat more than the usual amount, and was 8.7 per cent greater than in September of last year. The September volume was at the highest level for the month since 1930 and during the first nine months of the year sales averaged an increase of 8.1 per cent over the first nine months of 1935.

Stocks of merchandise were increased 6.3 per cent from

August 31 to September 30, or about the usual amount, and were 5.5 per cent greater than at the close of September last year. September collections on regular thirty-day accounts improved slightly, averaging 42.1 per cent of amounts receivable at the close of the preceding month as compared to a ratio of 41.8 per cent in August and of 40.6 per cent a year ago. Installment collections averaged 13.8 per cent in September, the same ratio as in August, and 13.9 per cent in September, 1935.

WHOLESALE: The combined sales volume of five representative wholesale lines reporting to this bank expanded 4.4 per cent from August to September and 7.7 per cent compared to September of last year. Sales of dry goods, hardware, furniture, and drugs shared in the seasonal increase during the month but sales of groceries declined. All lines showed an increase in sales over a year ago. The combined sales volume for the first nine months of the year was 9.4 per cent greater than in the first nine months of 1935, reflecting an increase of 5.9 per cent for dry goods, 7.8 per cent for groceries, 13.6 per cent for hardware, 18.3 per cent for furniture, and 8.3 per cent for drugs during the nine-month period.

Stocks of merchandise increased 4 per cent during September and at the close of the month were 5.5 per cent greater than a year earlier. Stocks of groceries, furniture, and drugs were larger than at the close of the preceding month but stocks of dry goods and hardware were slightly smaller. Stocks of dry goods, hardware, and drugs had increased during the year, while stocks of groceries and furniture had declined.

Lumber

Lumber sales in board feet at 158 reporting retail yards in the District were less in September than in August but continued well above a year ago and increased 34.1 per cent for the first nine months of 1936 as compared to the first nine months of 1935. The dollar volume of sales of all materials showed a similar trend.

Stocks of lumber showed little change between August 31 and September 30 but were somewhat larger than at the close of September last year. Collections declined further in September, averaging 36.2 per cent of amounts outstanding at the close of the preceding month compared to a ratio of 41.5 per cent in August and of 39.6 per cent in September, 1935.

WHOLESALE TRADE IN THE TENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT
In Percentages of Increase or Decrease

Stores Reporting	SALES		OUTSTANDING		AMOUNTS COLLECTED		STOCKS		
	Sept. 1936 compared to		Sept. 30, 1936 compared to		Sept. 1936 compared to		Sept. 30, 1936 compared to		
	Aug. 1936	Sept. 1935	Aug. 31, 1936	Sept. 30, 1935	Aug. 1936	Sept. 1935	Aug. 31, 1936	Sept. 30, 1935	
Dry goods.....	5	+ 5.9	+13.1	+16.0	- 0.1	- 8.1	+ 0.4	- 0.6	+20.0
Groceries.....	5	- 4.7	+ 3.4	- 0.4	-11.6	- 2.2	+23.2	+14.5	- 1.6
Hardware.....	9	+ 7.2	+10.7	+ 1.0	- 5.6	- 8.6	+ 7.4	- 1.3	+ 2.2
Furniture.....	3	+26.1	+24.3	+ 9.8	+24.2	+ 2.5	+14.2	+ 2.6	- 8.0
Drugs.....	7	+13.1	+ 6.4	+ 6.8	- 3.0	+ 3.9	+ 4.9	+ 2.4	+ 8.1

September business at the 158 reporting yards, in percentages of increase or decrease:

	September 1936 compared to	
	August 1936	September 1935
Sales of lumber, board feet.....	-14.5	+28.7
Sales of all materials, dollars.....	-1.3	+19.6
Stocks of lumber, board feet.....	-0.3	+11.8
Outstandings, dollars.....	+7.7	+28.7

The National Lumber Manufacturers Association reported that lumber production in the United States for the year to September 26 was 33 per cent, lumber shipments 25 per cent, and orders booked 23 per cent greater than in the same period in 1935.

Building

The value of construction contracts awarded in the Tenth District during September was substantially larger than in August or in September of last year, with about 40 per cent of the increase representing residential construction which was at the highest level for the month since 1929. The seasonal increase in building activity raised total construction to the highest level for the month in the same period with the exception of 1933. Total awards for the first nine months of 1936 were but little short of the amount reported for the entire year of 1935 and residential awards had already passed the entire amount for last year.

The value of construction contracts awarded, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation:

	TENTH DISTRICT		37 EASTERN STATES	
	Total	Residential	Total	Residential
Sept. 1936....	\$10,737,124	\$ 4,109,693	\$ 234,270,500	\$ 80,669,800
Aug. 1936....	6,198,200	2,213,300	275,281,400	100,522,500
Sept. 1935....	8,109,940	1,725,555	167,376,200	41,810,800
9 Mos. 1936..	89,423,728	21,983,664	2,034,189,300	588,180,600
9 Mos. 1935..	56,103,573	12,841,666	1,191,697,700	338,907,500

The number of building permits issued and the estimated value thereof in eighteen reporting cities in the District, however, declined in September and estimated expenditures were smaller than a year ago although larger than in any other September since 1930. During the first nine months of the year, permits increased 14 per cent in number and 58 per cent in value compared to the first nine months in 1935.

BUILDING PERMITS IN TENTH DISTRICT CITIES

	PERMITS		ESTIMATED COST	
	1936	1935	1936	1935
			\$	\$
Albuquerque, N. M.....	67	81	103,303	65,336
Cheyenne, Wyo.....	55	62	96,440	97,231
Colorado Springs, Colo.....	74	39	65,859	38,270
Denver, Colo.....	489	380	562,617	1,460,367
Hutchinson, Kans.....	61	65	23,449	21,981
Joplin, Mo.....	27	16	55,100	141,150
Kansas City, Kans.....	38	28	30,150	19,265
Kansas City, Mo.....	186	248	168,900	322,100
Lincoln, Nebr.....	146	195	62,769	118,249
Oklahoma City, Okla.....	161	140	586,845	226,795
Omaha, Nebr.....	158	127	228,631	145,556
Pueblo, Colo.....	47	57	21,450	20,229
Salina, Kans.....	18	12	22,300	3,100
Shawnee, Okla.....	18	18	8,090	7,860
St. Joseph, Mo.....	44	27	41,395	13,265
Topeka, Kans.....	85	61	230,733	58,815
Tulsa, Okla.....	118	109	183,531	131,705
Wichita, Kans.....	195	178	221,596	130,391
Total 18 cities, September.....	1,987	1,843	\$ 2,713,158	\$ 3,021,665
Nine months.....	15,977	14,014	29,429,504	18,629,952

Flour Milling

Operations at southwestern flour mills declined from 70.9 per cent of full-time capacity in August to 68.9 per cent in September and production declined 2.8 per cent. Production was slightly below the average for September during the past ten years but increased 8.2 per cent as compared to September

of last year when running time averaged 65.9 per cent of capacity. Production for the first nine months of 1936 increased 3 per cent compared to the total for the first nine months of 1935.

Flour production at the principal milling centers of the District, as estimated from the weekly reports of southwestern mills to the Northwestern Miller:

	Sept. 1936 Barrels	Aug. 1936 Barrels	Sept. 1935 Barrels
Atchison.....	117,491	135,190	113,264
Kansas City.....	540,485	529,153	479,167
Salina.....	197,422	210,670	185,536
Wichita.....	223,728	222,841	178,540
Outside.....	1,058,419	1,102,385	1,019,676
Total.....	2,137,545	2,200,239	1,976,183
*United States.....	5,458,266	6,138,800	5,801,756

*Represents about 60 per cent of the total output in the United States.

With the requirements of large purchasers apparently satisfied for sometime ahead and with bookings reported the heaviest in several years, flour sales in the southwest continued to decline in September in the absence of compelling market factors, and sales were confined for the most part to small lot orders. Shipping directions, however, improved during the month, enabling mills to maintain production at a level only slightly below that of August. Flour prices at the Kansas City market strengthened in September, following the trend of the wheat market, but prices of bran and shorts weakened with the improvement in pastures and forage crops following widespread rains.

Grain Marketing

Receipts of all grains at the five principal markets in the District declined substantially in September and, with the exception of corn and kafir, were much below receipts a year ago. Marketings of wheat were slightly less than half the total for August and were about one-third of the amount received in September, 1935, reflecting the earlier movement of the new crop this year and the holding tendency of producers. Receipts of corn continued light. Marketings of wheat represented but 40.9, corn 49.7, oats 64.3, rye 38.3, and barley 22 per cent of the September ten-year average, while receipts of kafir and milo exceeded the average by 3.6 per cent. Cumulative receipts for the first three quarters of the year, however, showed increases for all grains.

Receipts of grain at the five markets:

	Wheat Bushels	Corn Bushels	Oats Bushels	Rye Bushels	Barley Bushels	Kafir Bushels
Hutchinson..	1,066,500	1,250	.....	.....	.....	1,300
Kansas City..	2,377,600	835,500	226,000	16,500	46,000	67,200
Omaha.....	1,102,400	596,400	220,000	57,400	56,000	.....
St. Joseph..	396,800	123,000	390,000	13,500	17,500	.....
Wichita.....	909,000	14,300	1,500	.....	.....	18,200
Sept. 1936....	5,852,300	1,570,450	837,500	87,400	119,500	86,700
Aug. 1936....	12,229,600	2,704,200	2,484,500	282,100	583,200	168,700
Sept. 1935....	16,021,018	948,250	2,623,500	270,300	792,900	55,800
9 Mos. 1936..	110,817,037	30,100,268	12,469,500	784,900	2,388,450	1,130,600
9 Mos. 1935..	85,784,256	18,417,960	12,033,000	601,900	1,824,000	573,300

Cash prices of wheat and kafir at the Kansas City market advanced during September while closing prices of corn, oats, and rye were slightly lower and barley was unchanged. Prices of all grains but oats and kafir advanced the first two weeks in October.

Cash grain prices at Kansas City:

	Oct. 15 1936	Sept. 30 1936	Aug. 31 1936	Oct. 15 1935	Sept. 30 1935	Sept. 29 1934
No. 1 hard dk. wheat, bu.	\$1.23½	\$1.20½	\$1.17½	\$1.09½	\$1.07	\$1.04½
No. 2 mixed corn, bu.....	1.12½	1.09¼	1.10½	.77½	.78½	.80½
No. 2 white oats, bu.....	.45	.45½	.46	.30½	.31½	.56
No. 2 rye, bu.....	.91	.88	.92	.53	.52	.94
No. 2 barley, bu.....	.92	.90	.90	.52	.51½	.88
No. 2 white kafir, cwt....	1.79	1.82	1.77	1.22	1.26	1.71

THE ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF SEVEN TENTH DISTRICT CROPS, BASED ON THE OCTOBER 1 CONDITION

Reported by the United States Department of Agriculture, in thousands of units, 000 omitted, except broomcorn

	CORN		TAME HAY		GRAIN SORGHUMS		BROOMCORN		SUGAR BEETS		DRY BEANS		WHITE POTATOES	
	Bushels		Tons		Bushels		Tons		Short Tons		100 Lb. Bags		Bushels	
	Est.	Final	Est.	Final	Est.	Final	Est.	Final	Est.	Final	Est.	Final	Est.	Final
Colorado.....	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935
	10,448	10,761	1,771	1,712	1,325	994	3,400	3,000	2,262	1,826	1,095	1,256	17,170	18,000
Kansas.....	14,718	39,420	1,164	1,915	6,688	9,680	2,400	2,400	.....	.....	11	21	1,815	2,325
Missouri.....	42,534	72,890	1,706	2,553	1,112	2,346	*.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,970	4,524
Nebraska.....	27,627	106,630	1,659	2,629	680	2,678	.....	.....	828	625	88	104	4,815	10,080
New Mexico.....	2,750	2,700	262	241	3,000	2,816	4,900	5,800	.....	.....	276	302	525	420
Oklahoma.....	11,310	25,872	569	748	7,400	13,160	11,100	23,100	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,920	2,730
Wyoming.....	1,155	2,260	866	1,015	.....	.....	.....	.....	625	525	429	410	1,305	2,610
Seven states.....	110,542	260,533	7,997	10,813	20,205	31,674	21,800	34,400	3,715	2,976	1,899	2,093	30,520	40,689
United States.....	1,509,362	2,291,629	62,968	76,146	60,836	97,823	41,100	63,200	9,241	7,908	10,737	13,799	322,263	387,678

*Less than 100 tons.

Agriculture

CROPS: September weather conditions in the District were generally favorable for the growth and maturity of late crops and although the rains came too late to be of much benefit there was a slight upward revision in the Department of Agriculture production estimates for corn, oats, sugar beets, tame hay, dry beans, tobacco, broomcorn, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, cotton, apples, and pears. There was no change in the estimated production of grain sorghums and the estimates for barley, peaches, and grapes were lowered slightly. The October 1 estimates placed the yield per acre of thirty-three important crops combined at 73 per cent of the 1921-1930 average in Wyoming, 89 per cent in Colorado, 100 per cent in New Mexico, 42 per cent in Nebraska, 61 per cent in Kansas, 48 per cent in Oklahoma, 59 per cent in Missouri, and 84.5 per cent in the United States. The harvesting of dry beans, sugar beets, and potatoes was well along and practically completed in the northern portion of the District early in October. Little damage to crops was reported from frost which occurred in Wyoming, eastern Nebraska, Colorado, and New Mexico at the close of September.

The prospective yield of cotton was the same as one month earlier in Oklahoma and New Mexico but increased slightly in Missouri where rains came in time to stop the premature opening of bolls. Picking and ginning were in progress although delayed by unfavorable weather. Ginnings of the new crop to October 1 amounted to 131,000 bales in Missouri, 115,000 bales in Oklahoma, and 10,000 bales in New Mexico, and were well ahead of ginnings at this time last year.

Cotton acreage and production, estimated by the Department of Agriculture, in thousands of units:

	ACREAGE FOR HARVEST			ESTIMATED PRODUCTION (500 lb. bales)		
	Oct. 1	Oct. 1	Oct. 1	Oct. 1	Final	Final
Oklahoma.....	1936	1935	1934	1936	1935	1934
	2,290	2,628	2,539	239	567	321
New Mexico.....	109	108	92	100	75	90
Missouri.....	349	320	288	240	177	238
Three states.....	2,748	3,056	2,919	579	819	649
United States.....	29,720	28,652	27,241	11,609	10,638	9,636

The rains revived pastures, which were greening rapidly although still poor on October 1, and provided surface moisture for seedbed preparation and for the planting of winter grains, which have made much progress since late September. Soil moisture over the eastern two-thirds of Kansas was reported sufficient to carry wheat well into the winter but in north-eastern Wyoming, in most of Nebraska, and in western Kansas and adjacent areas in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Colorado there was less than the usual reserve of subsoil moisture and the moisture situation as affecting next year's crops was not so favorable in those areas. Early seeded wheat, oats, rye, barley,

and alfalfa were up and making good growth and some wheat was furnishing pasture. Old alfalfa stands were recovering rapidly, indicating a fair to good last cutting this season.

FARM STOCKS OF GRAIN: Stocks of old corn on farms in the seven states in the District on October 1 were more than four times as large as a year ago, following the short crop year of 1934, but were only slightly more than half the average stocks so held on that date from 1928 to 1932. Farm reserves of wheat, which include new wheat from the current year's crop, were almost as large as last year but declined 58.3 per cent as compared to the five-year average, reflecting below normal production both this year and last. Farm stocks of oats, including new oats from this year's crop, were 39.2 per cent below the average and 45.7 per cent below the extensive holdings on October 1 of last year when the crop was unusually large.

Farm stocks of grain on October 1, estimated by the Department of Agriculture, in thousands of bushels:

	Wheat		Corn		Oats	
	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935
Colorado.....	4,124	2,874	531	79	3,825	3,718
Kansas.....	20,447	23,060	1,996	268	14,477	32,648
Missouri.....	9,561	11,029	5,554	2,122	22,509	24,192
Nebraska.....	16,383	15,470	13,220	2,787	23,578	61,798
New Mexico.....	316	366	239	10	346	300
Oklahoma.....	9,987	10,916	1,459	173	16,512	26,869
Wyoming.....	1,724	1,867	121	22	1,305	2,621
Seven states.....	62,542	65,582	23,120	5,461	82,552	152,146
United States.....	227,098	267,972	173,770	61,655	682,673	972,748

FARM PRICES: The index of farm purchasing power, or the ratio of prices received to prices paid by farmers, was unchanged between August 15 and September 15 at 98 per cent of the pre-war, 1909-1914, level. This was the highest point reached by the index since August 15, 1929, exceeding the low point in June, 1932, and February, 1933, by 44 points and the index at this time last year by 11 points. Preliminary estimates of the Department of Agriculture indicated that cash income from the sale of farm products and Government payments in 1936 would be about \$7,850,000,000 as compared to \$7,090,000,000 in 1935 and \$4,370,000,000 in 1932.

Live Stock

MARKETINGS: Receipts of cattle, calves, and sheep at the six principal live stock markets in the District increased seasonally in September but the increase in cattle marketings was small, reflecting in part the earlier than normal movement of grass steers from Oklahoma and Kansas pastures which usually does not reach its peak until in that month. Marketings of hogs, including direct shipments to packers, increased contrary to the usual seasonal trend but represented only 53.3 per cent of the average volume for September during the past ten years. Receipts of cattle were 10.2 and sheep 18.7 per

cent below the ten-year average while receipts of calves exceeded the average by 17.4 per cent. Cattle receipts were smaller than a year ago but marketings of calves, hogs, and sheep showed sizable increases. The six markets received 8,586 horses and mules in September, 8,719 in August, and 12,094 in September, 1935.

PRICES: With a broadening in demand for dressed beef and an improvement in the quality and condition of offerings, prices of beef steers at the Kansas City market advanced 50 to 75 cents per hundredweight during September. Choice steers reached \$9.75 and yearlings \$10, the highest levels since last April, and heifers reached \$10.25, the highest price for this class this year. Comparative top prices in September, 1935, were \$12, \$11.25, and \$11, respectively. Demand for stockers and feeders broadened seasonally and new top prices since July were established on the principal replacement classes and since May on the principal feeder classes although values were somewhat lower than a year ago. The forced early marketing of spring pigs at the lightest weights since in 1934 and weakness in the demand for dressed pork resulted in a sharp decline in hog prices, the principal killing classes closing \$1.10 to \$1.15 lower than at the close of August. The hog top of \$11.25 was 30 cents lower than in August and 40 cents below a year ago but above the September tops from 1931 to 1934. Stock pigs were \$1.25 to \$1.50 lower. Range lambs arrived in peak volume but quality was good and prices advanced about 40 cents while native lambs were steady to 25 cents higher. The top for western range lambs was \$10.25, the highest lamb price for any September since 1929, and for native lambs \$9.85 compared to \$9.75 for westerns and \$10 for natives in September last year. All live stock values generally weakened the forepart of October.

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS: Shipments of stocker and feeder live stock from four markets in the District increased seasonally in September. The countryward movement of hogs was unusually large and was much above that of a year ago, but shipments of cattle, calves, and sheep declined as compared to September of last year and cattle and calf shipments showed a decrease for the nine-month period. Cattle shipments were 38.4 and sheep 55.1 per cent below the September ten-year average, while shipments of calves exceeded the average by 7.8 per cent.

According to the Department of Agriculture, the January through September movement of stocker and feeder cattle into the western Corn Belt was 6 per cent and the July through September movement 1 per cent less than a year ago, indicating a considerable reduction in the number to be fed for market during the fall and winter feeding period inasmuch as a larger than usual proportion of these cattle was expected to be carried over the winter on hay and roughage and pastured next summer. Feeding operations in New Mexico were expected to

show a considerable increase. Shipments of stocker and feeder lambs and sheep into the western Corn Belt during the three months July to September were 10 per cent larger than in 1935, but the movement into Colorado and Wyoming was somewhat reduced and the number to be shipped into Kansas and Oklahoma depended largely on the favorable growth of winter wheat pasture during October.

September rains and favorable temperatures resulted in a marked improvement in pastures and ranges during September except in Colorado and Wyoming where slight declines in condition occurred. Wheat and other grain pasture prospects were promising but late in Kansas, Oklahoma, and parts of Nebraska and if realized will help to relieve the shortage in feed grain, forage, and hay crops this year.

Meat Packing

Packers' purchases of live stock at the six principal markets in the District, direct purchases of hogs included, indicated an increase in calf and sheep slaughter and a slight decline in cattle and hog slaughter during September. The slaughter of all species was above that in September of last year and the slaughter of cattle and calves exceeded the ten-year average volume for the month by 11 and 45.7 per cent, respectively, but hog slaughter was 50.6 and sheep slaughter 26.1 per cent below the average. During the first nine months of the year, packers purchased more cattle, calves, and hogs and fewer sheep for slaughter than in the same period in 1935.

The commercial slaughter of cattle under Federal meat inspection in the United States, in excess of a million head for the second month this year, was 33.3 per cent above the September ten-year average and calf slaughter exceeded the average by 40.4 per cent. Hog slaughter was larger than in September of last year, but fell 10.4 per cent below the ten-year average and has been exceeded for the month in all other years since 1920. The slaughter of sheep was the heaviest since October, 1935, and was 9.1 per cent above the average volume.

Live stock slaughtered under Federal meat inspection in the United States, reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from compilations of the Bureau of Animal Industry:

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
September 1936.....	1,071,569	552,658	2,403,342	1,592,912
August 1936.....	1,011,743	540,801	2,253,964	1,395,374
September 1935.....	885,782	457,894	1,452,926	1,548,865
Nine months 1936.....	7,872,531	4,513,760	23,590,562	12,357,032
Nine months 1935.....	6,734,929	4,187,340	18,625,557	13,104,014

NOTE: Slaughter for Government relief purposes excluded.

Cold Storage Holdings

An unusually heavy seasonal accumulation in United States cold storage stocks of beef, lamb, poultry, and cheese and a contra-seasonal increase in stocks of miscellaneous meats to levels substantially above a year ago and above the October 1

SEPTEMBER MOVEMENT OF LIVE STOCK IN THE TENTH DISTRICT

	RECEIPTS				STOCKERS AND FEEDERS			PURCHASED FOR SLAUGHTER				
	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep	
Kansas City.....	171,367	41,946	*149,443	116,810	51,119	11,584	20,408	25,853	93,668	34,600	*115,416	75,181
Omaha.....	167,486	22,714	105,847	212,502	44,909	6,482	2,682	86,114	93,575	15,745	78,781	110,921
St. Joseph.....	42,503	10,235	63,428	67,890	5,111	892	1,266	10,516	32,406	9,611	51,223	57,453
Denver.....	39,280	5,248	26,987	475,563	8,125	754	432	69,885	18,968	4,444	21,264	38,971
Oklahoma City.....	47,638	21,349	32,217	8,297	.....	.....	.....	.....	31,619	19,620	27,487	4,077
Wichita.....	25,181	6,652	22,562	5,233	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,933	5,231	20,399	5,239
September 1936.....	493,455	108,144	400,484	886,295	109,264	19,712	24,788	192,368	283,169	89,251	314,570	291,842
August 1936.....	491,596	102,057	389,144	608,688	85,892	15,177	13,856	154,835	288,406	78,373	317,091	240,439
September 1935.....	504,913	93,648	245,418	747,792	148,000	20,141	5,730	234,487	230,084	64,324	200,800	245,665
Nine months 1936.....	3,286,663	596,173	3,876,277	5,362,332	573,378	81,399	71,342	720,116	1,945,382	481,310	3,230,801	2,601,089
†Nine months 1935..	3,106,068	594,977	2,969,579	5,449,697	678,344	109,972	55,277	653,184	1,605,970	447,438	2,448,881	2,806,985

*Includes 75,120 hogs shipped direct to packers' yards.

†Receipts include Government purchases of cattle and calves.

five-year average occurred during September. Holdings of pork and lard declined by less than the usual seasonal amount during the month but holdings of pork were 24.8 per cent below the average despite an increase of 30.3 per cent during the year. Net withdrawals of eggs were about normal for the season while butter moved out of storage at about one-third the usual rate. Holdings of eggs and butter on October 1 were smaller than a year ago and were 13.1 and 12 per cent, respectively, below the average. Drought had resulted in a heavy marketing of poultry and had reduced butter supplies this year.

United States cold storage holdings reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in thousands of units:

	*Oct. 1 1936	Sept. 1 1936	Oct. 1 1935	Oct. 1 5-Yr. Av.
Beef, lbs.....	82,804	64,255	48,226	50,616
Pork, lbs.....	361,651	420,848	277,605	481,080
Lamb and mutton, lbs.....	3,334	2,634	1,376	1,911
Poultry, lbs.....	82,576	65,488	39,720	46,573
**Turkeys, lbs.....	5,593	7,989	6,549	3,663
Miscellaneous meats, lbs.....	75,233	73,154	49,065	63,161
Lard, lbs.....	101,634	110,561	45,350	101,083
Eggs, cases.....	5,817	7,006	6,353	6,695
Eggs, frozen (case equivalent).....	2,761	3,103	2,819	2,739
Butter, creamery, lbs.....	108,777	112,106	148,822	123,645
Cheese, all varieties, lbs.....	115,309	107,542	114,953	105,083

*Subject to revision. **Included in Poultry.

Coal

The production of bituminous coal in the District increased seasonally from August to September and was 23.6 per cent greater than in September, 1935. Production for the first nine months of the year increased 17.8 per cent compared to production for the first nine months of last year.

Bituminous coal production reported by the Bureau of Mines:

	*Sept. 1936 Tons	Aug. 1936 Tons	Sept. 1935 Tons
Colorado.....	556,000	400,000	457,000
Kansas and Missouri.....	528,000	464,000	452,000
New Mexico.....	114,000	111,000	95,000
Oklahoma.....	215,000	153,000	167,000
Wyoming.....	510,000	393,000	385,000

Six states.....	1,923,000	1,521,000	1,556,000
United States.....	36,772,000	33,240,000	25,038,000

*Estimated from the weekly reports of the United States Bureau of Mines.

Petroleum

The daily average flow of crude oil in the District declined 1.7 per cent in September and gross production, with one less producing day, declined 4.9 per cent or somewhat less than the usual seasonal amount. Production was 14.3 per cent greater than in September of last year and was 15.3 per cent above the average for the month during the past ten years.

Production for the first nine months of 1936 increased 9.5 per cent compared to production for the first nine months in 1935.

Petroleum production, estimated from the weekly reports of the American Petroleum Institute for September and officially reported by the Bureau of Mines for August and for September, 1935, in thousands of barrels:

	September 1936		August 1936		September 1935	
	Gross	D. Av.	Gross	D. Av.	Gross	D. Av.
Oklahoma.....	17,139	571.3	18,178	586.4	14,934	497.8
Kansas.....	4,907	163.6	5,231	168.8	4,550	151.7
Wyoming.....	1,249	41.6	1,248	40.3	1,204	40.2
Colorado.....	148	4.9	155	5.0	138	4.6
New Mexico.....	2,370	79.0	2,331	75.2	1,762	58.7
Five states.....	25,813	860.4	27,143	875.7	22,588	753.0
United States.....	90,609	3,020.3	95,090	3,067.4	84,109	2,803.6

Mid-continent crude oil prices were unchanged at schedules posted on January 9 ranging from 86 cents to \$1.18 per barrel according to gravity. Field operations continued active. Completions in states in the District totaled 3,762 to October 10 this year and 2,863 in the same period last year.

Zinc and Lead

Shipments of zinc and lead from the Tri-State district increased by a considerable amount during the five weeks ended October 3 and were above shipments for the corresponding period in 1935. Shipments of zinc concentrates generally exceeded production and surplus stocks of zinc were reduced to about 30,000 tons, the lowest level since early in the year. The number of zinc mills in operation was increased from 45 to 56 during September as compared to 64 mills in operation at the middle of June, shortly prior to the inauguration of the voluntary production curtailment program. Cumulative shipments of zinc increased 19.1 per cent and lead 30.3 per cent this year compared to last.

Zinc and lead shipments from the Tri-State district:

	ZINC ORE		LEAD ORE	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
Oklahoma.....	25,771	\$ 809,871	2,637	\$ 131,850
Kansas.....	16,081	505,301	1,256	62,800
Missouri.....	3,078	96,598	227	11,350

5 Weeks ended Oct. 3, 1936....	44,930	\$ 1,411,770	4,120	\$ 206,000
5 Weeks ended Aug. 29, 1936....	35,810	1,110,110	3,180	159,000
5 Weeks ended Oct. 5, 1935....	43,375	1,308,189	3,469	159,043
40 Weeks ended Oct. 3, 1936....	323,840	10,272,165	38,369	1,896,050
40 Weeks ended Oct. 5, 1935....	271,846	7,466,849	29,442	1,139,422

Zinc prices at the Joplin market advanced 50 cents per ton to close the month at \$31.50 as compared to \$31 a year ago, while lead prices were unchanged at \$50 per ton compared to \$47 at the close of September, 1935. In September of last year zinc advanced \$1 and lead \$2 per ton.

National Summary of Business Conditions

By the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Volume of industrial production was maintained in September and employment at factories increased seasonally.

Distribution of commodities to consumers increased. Commercial loans of city banks showed further growth.

PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT: Industrial output in September, as measured by the Board's seasonally adjusted index, was 109 per cent of the 1923-1925 average, approximately the level of the two preceding months. Output of steel was about the same as in August and in the first three weeks of October the rate of activity rose to a higher level than at any time since 1930. Automobile production showed a sharp seasonal decline in September and a considerable seasonal

advance in the first three weeks of October. Production of lumber and cement showed a further rise and increases in activity were also reported at meat packing establishments and at cotton and silk textile factories. At woolen mills there was little change in production although an increase is usual in September. Output of coal increased more than seasonally, and crude petroleum production continued in large volume.

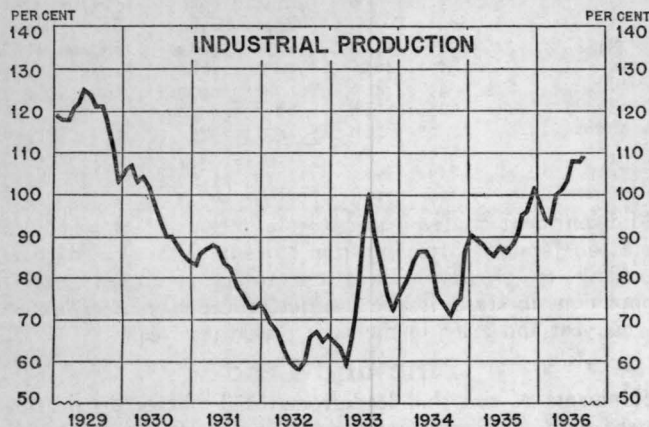
Factory employment increased seasonally in September and payrolls were maintained at the August level. The number employed in most industries producing durable goods continued to increase, while at automobile factories there was a seasonal decline. Employment decreased at woolen mills and showed

a smaller increase than is usual at this season at cotton mills and at establishments producing women's clothing.

Value of construction contracts awarded, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, declined somewhat further in September from the relatively high level reached in the middle of the year. There was a decrease in awards for residential building, reflecting chiefly a smaller volume of contracts for apartment construction which in August had included several large publicly-

larger shipments of coal, ore, and miscellaneous freight and a decline in loadings of grain.

COMMODITY PRICES: The general level of wholesale commodity prices has shown little change in the last two months. From the middle of September to the third week in October sugar and butter prices declined, and there were decreases also in prices of hogs and pork, as is usual at this season. Price advances were reported for leather and coke and higher prices



Index of physical volume of production, adjusted for seasonal variation, 1923-1925 average=100. By months, January 1929 through September 1936. Figures for 1935 and 1936 have been revised.

financed projects. Awards for non-residential work declined, partly as a result of a reduction in contracts for public works and utilities which have been in large volume during recent months.

AGRICULTURE: Crop conditions improved somewhat from September 1 to October 1, according to the Department of Agriculture, but estimates for corn and many other crops are still considerably below the harvests of last year. The cotton crop is estimated at 11,600,000 bales, an increase of 500,000 bales from the estimate made a month earlier and of 1,000,000

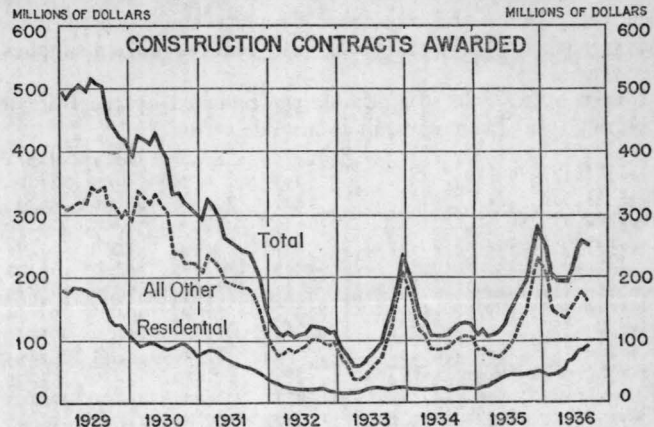


Indexes of number employed and payrolls, without adjustment for seasonal variation, 1923-1925 average=100. By months, January 1929 through September 1936. Indexes compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

bales from the 1935 crop. Total cash farm income, including all Government payments, is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at \$7,850,000,000 for the calendar year 1936 as compared with \$7,090,000,000 in 1935.

DISTRIBUTION: Distribution of commodities to consumers increased by more than the usual amount in September, following a less than seasonal rise between July and August. Sales at department and variety stores and by mail order houses serving rural areas were in larger volume in September.

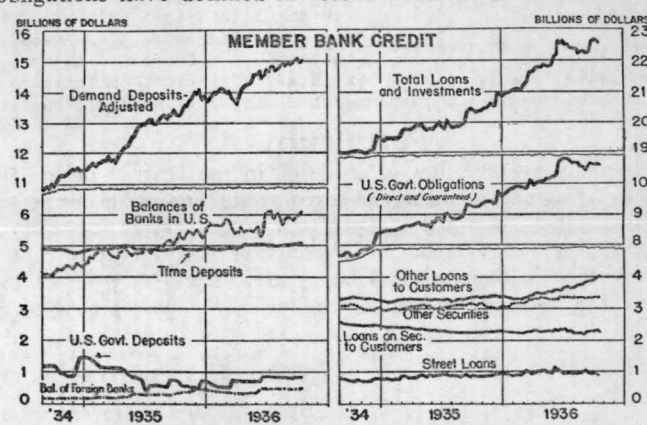
Volume of freight carried by railroads increased, reflecting



Three-month moving averages of F. W. Dodge data for value of contracts awarded in 37 Eastern States, adjusted for seasonal variation. Latest figures based on data for July and August and estimate for September.

for some finished and semifinished steel products became effective on October 1.

BANK CREDIT: Loans of reporting member banks in leading cities, other than loans on securities, continued to increase in September and the first half of October. On October 14 the volume of these loans was more than \$400,000,000 larger than on July 29. About half of this increase was at New York City banks and the remainder principally at banks in western and southern cities. Holdings of United States Government obligations have declined in recent weeks at New York City



Wednesday figures for reporting member banks in 101 leading cities.

September 5, 1934, through October 14, 1936. Loans on real estate, loans to banks, and acceptances and commercial paper bought included in total loans and investments but not shown separately.

banks and have increased somewhat at other banks. Deposits of reporting banks have continued to increase.

Excess reserves of member banks increased by \$410,000,000 in the five weeks ending October 21, reflecting a reduction of \$300,000,000 in Treasury holdings of cash and balances at the Reserve banks and an increase of \$250,000,000 in monetary gold stock, the effects of which were partially offset by a seasonal increase in money in circulation and a further growth in required reserves.