

MONTHLY REVIEW

OF

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

JOHN PERRIN, Chairman of the Board and Federal Reserve Agent
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No. 11

Summary of National Conditions

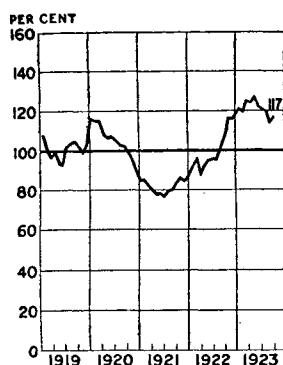
Production of basic commodities and retail trade increased during October, and the volume of freight shipments and wholesale trade continued large. The level of wholesale prices and the volume of employment showed but little change.

Production. The Federal Reserve Board's index of production in basic industries advanced 3 per cent during October, after having declined for four consecutive months. The increase for the month, while due in part to the resumption of anthracite coal mining, also reflected increases in production in the textile, lumber, and sugar industries, and in most other industries included in the index.

Employment at industrial establishments showed practically no change between September and October. Contract awards for new buildings increased throughout the country considerably more than is usual at this season, and were 25 per cent larger in October than in September. Residential projects formed a larger proportion of the total than in any earlier month of the year.

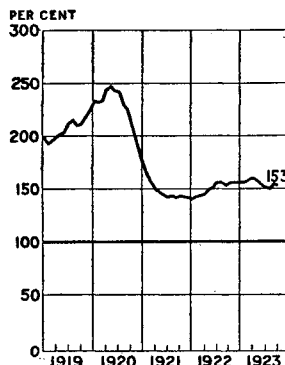
Crop estimates by the Department of Agriculture on November 1st indicated a substantial reduction from the September forecast in the yield of cotton, but larger yields of corn, potatoes, and apples.

Trade. Heavy movement of miscellaneous merchandise and livestock in October resulted



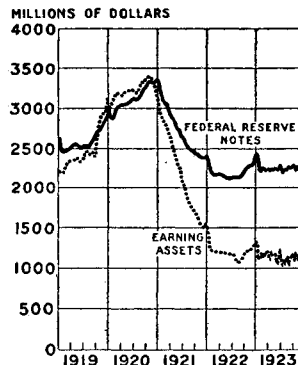
Index of Production in Basic Industries

Combination of 22 individual series corrected for seasonal variation (1919 average = 100 per cent)



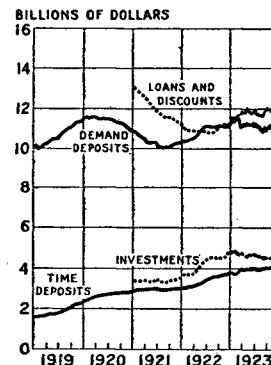
Prices

Index numbers of wholesale prices, United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1913 average = 100 per cent)



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in the largest railroad shipments of any month on record. Wholesale trade was 12 per cent larger than a year ago, sales in all leading lines except shoes showing increases. Department stores sales were 13 per cent larger than last October, and sales of mail order houses were the largest of any month since 1919.

Prices. Wholesale prices declined less than 1 per cent in October, according to the index of the United States Bureau of Labor, and stood approximately at the level of a year ago. The principal changes for the month were declines in the prices of fuel, clothing, metals, and animal products. Wholesale prices of farm crops, particularly cotton, increased. During the first half of November the prices of wheat, hogs, pig-iron, and hides receded, and prices of cotton and cotton goods, cement, and copper advanced.

Bank credit. Since the middle of October there has been a slight decline in demand for credit for commercial and agricultural purposes at member banks in leading cities. Considerable decreases in borrowings for these purposes in the New York and Chicago districts were partially offset by increases in other districts. Loans secured by stocks and bonds increased somewhat, while investments continued to decline and reached the low point of the year. The total member bank accommodation at Federal Reserve banks declined between October 17th and November 21st, and on the latter date was the lowest since the middle of the year. The total volume of Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, however, remained relatively constant because of increased purchases of bills in the open market. The volume of Federal Reserve notes in circulation declined by about \$50,000,000 during the period, while other forms of money in circulation increased.

Money rates showed an easier tendency during this period and in the early part of November the open market rate on commercial paper in New York declined from 5-5¼ to 5 per cent.

Summary of District Conditions

Signs of active autumn trade which were wanting in August and September appeared in nearly all sections of the district during October. The record for that month shows a greater than seasonal increase in the total volume of business transacted, as measured by debits to individual accounts, and carries a suggestion of continued activity in its figures of building permits issued. Eliminating seas-

onal variations, debits to individual accounts at banks in 21 clearing house centers were 19.2 per cent greater during October, 1923, than during October, 1922, and 3.9 per cent greater than during September, 1923. The latter gain marked the end of a monthly decline in these corrected figures which, by September, had carried them to levels 14.2 per cent below the peak of June, 1923. Prospective building operations assumed record proportions during October when the number of building permits issued in 20 large cities located in all sections of the district was 13.3 per cent greater than in the previous record month of March, 1923, and the value of building authorized was but one per cent less than the recent peak of August, 1923.

Bank credit for financing this increasing business activity as well as for harvesting and marketing the crops of the district has continued abundant and relatively cheap. Total loans of 65 reporting member banks at \$999,000,000 on November 7th were slightly below the autumn peak of \$1,008,000,000 reached on September 19th. Total deposits of these banks declined approximately \$12,000,000 during October, a movement (possibly temporary) contrary to the general trend of recent months, which has been characterized by increasing deposits, narrowly fluctuating loans, declining investments, and reduced demands upon the **Federal Reserve Bank**. Total discounts of the Federal Reserve Bank declined from \$72,000,000 on October 18th to \$57,000,000 on November 14th, the latter figure being the lowest reached since April, 1923, and 38.3 per cent below the peak figure of the crop moving season reached on September 5th last. **Interest rates** tended slightly downward during the latter part of October and the first weeks of November.

No abatement of productive activity in the principal industries of the district appeared during October, and a less than seasonal amount of **unemployment** was reported. Accompanying the continued excess of production over consumption of **copper**, market prices for that metal declined during late October and early November to low levels (12½ cents per pound) for the year, but have since (November 19th) recovered to 13⅛ cents per pound. Wages of skilled and unskilled miners at the principal copper camps of Arizona and Utah were reduced 50 cents a day on November 1st. **Petroleum** production in California apparently reached a peak in September, following a steady rise of two years duration,

and average daily production during October was 7.7 per cent less than during the previous month. Storage stocks of petroleum increased despite the decline in production, standing at 88,349,550 barrels on November 1st compared with 85,496,607 barrels on October 1st. Lumber mills of the district cut more lumber during October than during any previous month this year, part of the increase being seasonal, and sales and shipments continued at high levels.

Distribution of goods at retail proceeded actively during October and a marked increase in trade at wholesale was noted. Reports from 35 large department stores showed an increase of 15.9 per cent in value of sales during October, 1923, compared with October, 1922, and a greater than seasonal increase as compared with September, 1923. Sales of all lines of wholesale trade reporting to this bank were larger during October, 1923, than during October, 1922, and all but two lines, in which seasonal declines occurred, reported an increase in the value of their sales when compared with September, 1923.

Prices, both of the principal products of this district and of a representative list of commodities in the country as a whole, fluctuated within narrow limits during October, a slight downward tendency being apparent. The wholesale price index number of the United States Bureau of Labor, which includes 404 commodity or price series, stood at 153 for October compared with 154 for September, 1923, and October, 1922 (1913 prices=100). The decline was due principally to reductions in prices of cloth, clothing, fuels, and metals. Building materials prices were unchanged during the month, according to this index. The general price level today is a fraction of one per cent lower than a year ago.

Completion of the harvest of the district's crops has brought confirmation of earlier reports of average or better than average yields of most farm products. Weather conditions have been favorable, transportation facilities have been more nearly adequate than for some years past, and market prices, although depressed in some cases, have generally permitted profitable disposition of the crops grown.

Crop Conditions and Markets

Harvesting of the district's crops has been practically completed and, although final figures are not available, preliminary reports as

of November 1st are sufficiently accurate to indicate that yields have been satisfactory and that prices received by producers generally have permitted realization of some profit on the year's operations.

The record wheat crop of the district (141,332,000 bushels compared with 99,277,000 bushels produced in 1922) has moved to market slowly, and it is estimated that less than 50 per cent of the crop had passed out of producers' hands by November 1st. Farmers have not appeared to be anxious to sell, grain dealers are reported to have been operating with a minimum of speculative buying, and millers' takings have been approximately normal. Domestic demand for wheat has been sluggish, as has been the export demand in nearly all countries except China and Japan. A large part of the export shipments of wheat (and wheat flour) from this coast has gone to the Orient, takings of Japan increasing 50 per cent and of China over 100 per cent during the first quarter of the 1923-1924 season as compared with the same quarter of the 1922-1923 season.

	WHEAT EXPORTS		
	July 1st to October 31st (inclusive)		
	1923 (bushels)	1922 (bushels)	1921 (bushels)
Portland	10,289,639	8,425,853	16,185,517
Puget Sound..	1,560,059	2,005,311	1,965,467
Totals	11,849,698	10,431,164	18,150,984

Progress of the harvest of the principal field crops of the district witnessed little change in forecasted yields. There was some reduction in the estimated crop of potatoes in Idaho and Oregon, but not enough to affect seriously the total yield of the district nor the general marketing situation. More than 75 per cent of the sugar beet crop of the district had been harvested by November 15th and preliminary returns indicated that yields per acre and average sugar content of beets have been well up to the figures of previous years. Whether or not returns to growers will be greater than during the past two seasons, therefore, depends upon the price of sugar during coming months. (The grower is paid on a sliding scale according to the sugar content of the beets and the average prices received by the factories for refined sugar.) At present (November 15th) beet sugar is selling at \$8.90 per 100 pounds in the San Francisco market compared with a price of \$7.20 per 100 pounds quoted a year ago. The dry bean crop in California and Idaho, the two principal producing states of the district, is now placed at 3,776,000 bushels

compared with 2,501,000 bushels produced in 1922. On October 15th growers were reported to be receiving \$4.15 per bushel in California and \$3.55 per bushel in Idaho compared with prices of \$3.30 and \$3.00 per bushel, respectively, on October 15, 1922. Condition of the cotton crop in Arizona and California improved during October, and the yield is now placed at 124,000 bales, compared with 119,000 bales a month ago, and a final estimated yield of 70,000 bales a year ago. A little more than two-fifths of the crop had been ginned by November 1st, and picking and ginning have proceeded normally since that time. The United States Department of Agriculture's forecast of total production of cotton in the United States was further reduced on November 1st, standing at 10,248,000 bales on that date compared with 11,015,000 bales a month previous. Prices of medium and short staple cottons, which comprise more than 75 per cent of the district crop this year, have risen to the highest level since 1920 and growers generally are reporting a profitable season.

Apples and grapes were the only deciduous fruits harvested in quantity during October. The largest commercial apple crop of record has been produced in the four leading apple states of the district, the present estimated yield being 41,025,000 boxes (bushels). In 1922 there were 31,617,000 boxes (bushels) of apples produced in the same four states. Nearly all other apple growing sections of the country also have produced large crops, the total being nearly 30 per cent in excess of the average production of the past five years. Prices have been low as a result of the large supply, and the market, particularly for small sized and low grade apples, has been weak.

APPLE SHIPMENTS
Season Total to November 3rd

	1923 (cars)	1922 (cars)
California	5,095	3,062
Idaho	2,959	1,886
Oregon	2,529	1,126
Washington	16,897	9,730
Total	27,480	15,804

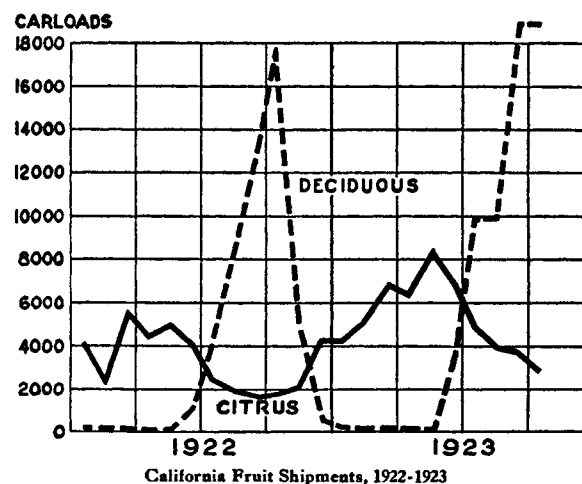
The peak of the movement of **grapes** from California was passed during October. The crop was an average one, but transportation facilities were better than in previous years, and a larger proportion of the crop than usual was shipped from the state. Up to November 9, 1923, 47,567 cars of grapes had been shipped from California compared with a total movement of slightly more than 43,000 cars during the 1922 shipping season. Supplies of grapes both at shipping points and in eastern markets

have been heavy at nearly all times during the season and the market has been weak. Last year growers averaged approximately \$52 per ton on table grapes and \$65 per ton on wine grapes, but this year's returns are estimated to have been well below these figures.

The 1922-1923 citrus fruit season in California closed on November 1st. Preliminary figures on total shipments for the past two seasons follow:

	1923 (cars)	1922 (cars)
Oranges	50,868	29,591
Lemons	8,740	9,926

Average returns to grower members of the California Fruit Growers Exchange during the past season have been estimated at \$2.71 per box for oranges and \$4.85 per box for lemons, the figure for oranges being below that of the



previous season and that for lemons slightly above the return in 1921-1922. The forthcoming crop of oranges is estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture at 22,500,000 boxes, a yield but little, if any, larger than the crop in previous years of heavy production. The present condition of the lemon crop indicates that the 1923 yield will be the largest ever recorded, exceeding the previous record crop of nearly 5,000,000 boxes produced in 1921.

Conditions in the **canned fruit** market changed little during the past month. Distribution is reported to be proceeding normally on a strong but cautious market. **Dried fruit** markets in general have improved slightly, but the presence of relatively large stocks of 1922 crop fruit (particularly prunes and raisins) either in the hands of packers or, as the result of recent sales, in the hands of wholesale and retail distributors, has continued to unsettle the market.

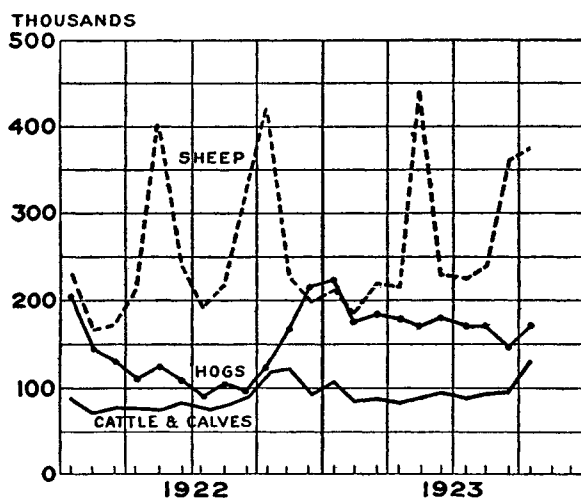
Livestock

Cattle and sheep have entered winter feeding areas in excellent condition generally, and the supply of range feed is reported to be abundant in nearly all sections of the district. The United States Department of Agriculture summarizes the situation as follows:

LIVESTOCK AND RANGE CONDITIONS NOVEMBER 1st
(100=normal)

	Ranges		Cattle		Sheep	
	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922
Arizona	95	79	94	85	93	91
California	84	85	91	90	93	92
Idaho	97	82	99	81	98	90
Nevada	95	99	91	98	98	100
Oregon	93	..	95	..	97	..
Utah	90	83	90	91	94	100
Washington	97	92	95	93	100	96

Good physical conditions of flocks and ranges and the favorable market situation for sheep and wool which has prevailed during the past season, are reported to have caused many sheep raisers to plan a material increase in the size of their flocks for the coming season.



Receipts of Livestock at Eight of the Principal Markets of the District 1922-1923. (Los Angeles, Ogden, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Spokane, and Tacoma included)

Receipts of all classes of livestock at the principal markets of the district during October were greater than in the previous month, and, excepting sheep, greater than in the same month a year ago. Receipts of hogs during October, 1923, were larger by 36 per cent than during October, 1922. The figures for eight markets follow:

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
October, 1923...	101,269	29,176	170,809	375,127
September, 1923...	74,806	20,343	147,026	339,027
October, 1922...	94,142	23,275	125,473	418,765

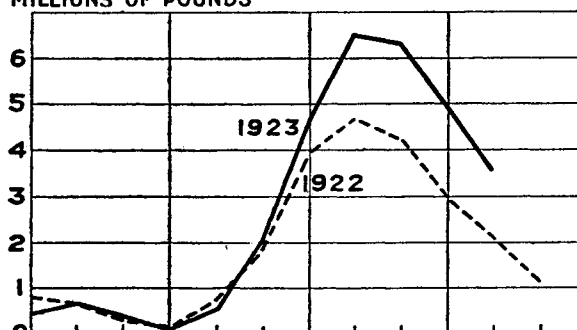
The majority of the better grades of cattle and practically all available sheep and lambs have moved to market during the past month at prices satisfactory to producers, a slight upward price tendency having been apparent in

most of the district markets. Hogs continued in relatively heavy supply and prices worked toward lower levels.

Dairy and Poultry Products

Butter production continued at seasonally low levels during October, and further reductions occurred in the large stocks of cold storage butter held in the district. Holdings at four principal markets on November 1, 1923, were 27 per cent less than on October 1, 1923, and 45 per cent below the recent peak of August 1, 1923, but continued 80 per cent greater than one year ago. Reported cold storage holdings of butter in the United States as a whole were 76,418,000 pounds on November 1, 1923, compared with 73,857,000 pounds on November 1, 1922, and a five year average on that date of 86,993,000 pounds.

MILLIONS OF POUNDS



Seasonal Movement of Holdings of Cold Storage Butter at Four Principal Markets of the District, 1922-1923

The winter decline in holdings of cold storage eggs is now well under way. Stocks in six markets of the district have decreased 33 per cent during the past month, and on November 1st were but one-half as large as on August 1st. They were, however, 50 per cent greater than stocks held on November 1, 1922, whereas on October 1, 1923, holdings of cold storage eggs were but 21.7 per cent greater than in the previous year.

A summary of cold storage holdings of butter and eggs in the chief markets of the Twelfth District is given in the following table:

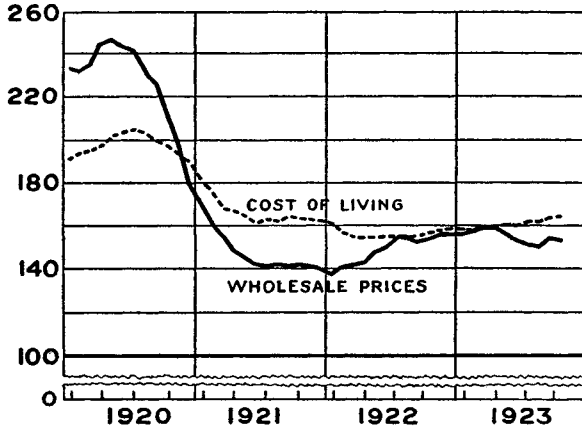
	Nov. 1, 1923	Oct. 1, 1923	Sept. 1, 1923	Nov. 1, 1922
Butter (pounds)	3,548,212	4,893,783	6,312,719	1,969,006
Eggs (cases)...	333,894	504,392	600,331	221,018

Prices

Of the prices of nineteen selected products of the farms of this district, six advanced, four remained unchanged and nine declined during October. Of the prices of five manufactured foods one advanced, three were unchanged and one declined. Three non-ferrous metals declined in price during October, while one advanced. Two grades of lumber did not change

in price during the month. The price of California petroleum of 35 degrees gravity and above was cut during the month from \$1.04 to \$0.76 per barrel, and other grades were reduced in price by smaller amounts.

INDEX NUMBERS



Wholesale Prices and the Cost of Living, 1920-1923

United States Bureau of Labor Index of Wholesale Prices (1913=100)
National Industrial Conference Board Index of the Cost of Living (July 1914=100)

The farm products whose prices declined during October were cattle, sheep, hogs, wool, wheat, rice, apples, lemons, and dried apples; those whose prices advanced were lambs, cotton, oranges, dried apricots, prunes, and eggs; those whose prices did not change were barley, raisins, milk, and butter. Wheat for December delivery at Chicago was quoted at \$1.01 $\frac{7}{8}$ to \$1.03 $\frac{1}{4}$ per bushel on November 13th, compared with \$0.99 on July 17th when it reached the lowest point this year, and \$1.10 $\frac{3}{4}$ on October 8th, the highest point subsequently reached. Cotton prices recently reached the highest levels since August, 1920, spot middling uplands cotton at New Orleans having sold for 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound early in November. Of nineteen selected farm products, six are selling today at higher prices than a year ago, while thirteen are selling for less.

The price of electrolytic copper at New York declined during October from 13 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 12 $\frac{1}{8}$ cents per pound, but has since returned to 13 $\frac{1}{8}$ cents per pound (November 13th).

(A) Commodity Prices—

Commodity	Unit	Nov. 2, 1923	One Month Ago	One Year Ago
Twenty Basic Commodities (F. R. B. of N. Y.) 1913=100.		145.4	148.8	148.0
Wholesale Prices (U. S. Bureau of Labor) 1913=100.....		153.0	154.0	154.0
Cost of Living (National Industrial Conference Board)				
July, 1914=100		164.1	163.4	157.1
Cattle (Native Beef)... Weekly average price at Chicago..	100 lbs.	\$ 9.90	\$10.30	\$10.30
Sheep	100 lbs.	6.75	7.10	6.65
Lambs	100 lbs.	13.05	12.90	13.40
Hogs	100 lbs.	7.25	7.70	8.20
Wheat	bu.	1.06 $\frac{3}{8}$ -1.07	1.07 $\frac{3}{8}$ -1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.16-1.17 $\frac{5}{8}$
Barley	cental	1.40-1.60	1.40-1.60	1.45-1.55
Rice	cental	5.35	5.75	5.15
Cotton	lb.	30.50-31.50¢	28.25-28.50¢	23.25-24.00¢
Wool	lb.	74.28¢	74.88¢	76.84¢
Flour	bbbl.	7.05	7.04	7.56
Sugar	lb.	8.80¢	9.40¢	7.20¢
Apples	box	*.75-1.10	1.35-1.50	*1.35
Oranges	box	5.50-6.25	3.50-4.00	10.00-11.00
Lemons	box	5.25-5.50	6.25-6.75	9.00-10.00
Dried Apples....	lb.	.08-.08 $\frac{1}{4}$	.08 $\frac{1}{4}$ -.08 $\frac{1}{2}$	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dried Apricots... Choice in 25-lb. boxes f. o. b. California..	lb.	.10-.10 $\frac{1}{2}$	.09 $\frac{1}{2}$ -.09 $\frac{3}{4}$	.23-.24
Prunes	lb.	.10 $\frac{3}{4}$ -.11	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$ -.10 $\frac{1}{2}$	.12 $\frac{1}{4}$ -.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Raisins	lb.	.08 $\frac{3}{4}$	.08 $\frac{3}{4}$	.10
Canned Apricots. Choice 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s f. o. b. California.....	doz.	2.60	2.60	3.25
Canned Peaches.. Cling Choice, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s f. o. b. California.....	doz.	2.25	2.25	2.60
Canned Pears.... Bartlett, Standard 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s f. o. b. California.	doz.	2.40	2.40	2.85
Raw Milk	100 lbs.	2.81	2.81	2.44
Butter	lb.	.49 $\frac{1}{2}$	.49 $\frac{1}{2}$	.46 $\frac{1}{2}$
Eggs	doz.	.60	.58	.59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Copper	lb.	.12 $\frac{5}{8}$	.13 $\frac{3}{8}$	.13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Lead	lb.	6.85¢	7.10¢	7.125¢
Silver	oz.	.63	.63 $\frac{7}{8}$	.66 $\frac{7}{8}$
Zinc	lb.	6.35-6.40¢	6.25-6.30¢	7.10-7.15¢
Petroleum	bbbl.	.76	1.04	1.95
Douglas Fir..... 2x4, 16 ft. No. S1S1E f. o. b. Seattle.....	M ft.	19.50	19.50	20.50
Douglas Fir..... 12x12 Timbers f. o. b. Seattle.....	M ft.	25.00	25.00	20.00

*Prices as of October 30th.

Salmon

Preliminary estimates available at the close of the 1923 salmon canning season indicate that this year's pack of salmon in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest was well over 6,000,000 cases (case contains 48 one pound or 96 half pound cans), the largest output reported since 1919. Most of the gain as compared with the year 1922, when approximately 5,200,000 cases of salmon were packed, resulted from the unusually large catch of Pink Salmon in the waters of Southeastern Alaska. In Western and Central Alaska sections, which are partly under new government fishing regulations as to the type and amount of fishing gear to be used, the catch was smaller than a year ago, but nevertheless satisfactory because of the high percentage of Red Salmon included. The following table presents preliminary figures of the 1923 pack and final estimates of the 1922 pack of salmon in this district:

	1923 Pack (Preliminary Estimate in Cases)	1922 Pack (Final Estimate in Cases)
Alaska	5,365,000	4,501,000
Puget Sound.....	650,000	249,000
Columbia River.....	435,000	392,000
Other United States Waters	90,000	89,000
Totals	6,540,000	5,231,000

No accurate figures of total stocks of 1922 pack salmon carried over into the 1923-1924 season by packers are available, but it is reported that the amount of such stocks was considerably less than those held at the beginning of the 1922-1923 season. Movement to market has proceeded normally thus far this year, and prices have remained steady since the opening of the present season. Recent spot prices for salmon, 1923 opening prices, and 1922 opening prices are compared in the following table:

Variety	Spot Price November 15, 1923	Opening Price 1923	Opening Price 1922
	(Per dozen No. 1 tall cans)		
Alaska Reds	\$2.25-2.35	\$2.35	\$2.25
Pinks	1.20-1.25	1.25	1.15
Chums	1.20	1.20	1.05

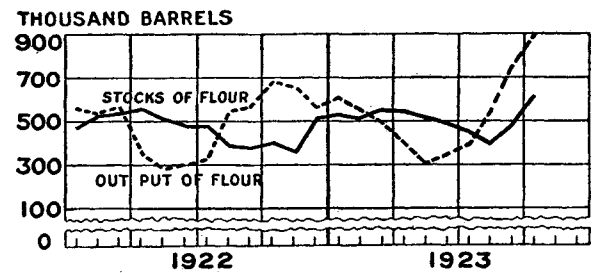
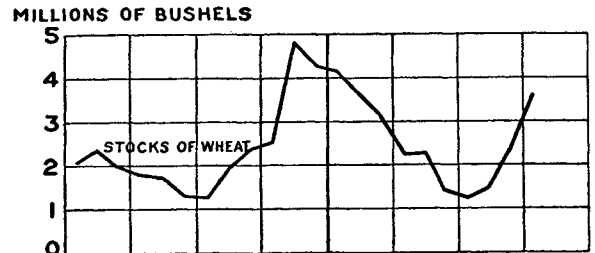
Milling

Flour millers of the district ground more flour during October, 1923, than during any previous month of which there is record, according to reports received by this bank from 16 large milling companies. Total output of these companies during the month was 895,470 barrels, an increase of 21 per cent over September, 1923, and of 30 per cent over October, 1922. Part of the increase in output was in response to an active foreign demand and a slightly improved domestic demand for flour, but a considerable part of the milled product was placed in storage. Stored stocks of flour

held by reporting mills totaled 612,735 barrels on November 1st, the largest figure reported since July, 1920. A normal seasonal increase in millers' stocks of wheat was reported during October. Figures of output and stocks for 16 milling companies for which a continuous record is kept are given in the following table:

	Oct., 1923	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1922
Output	(bbls.) 895,470	739,115	688,054
Stocks of Flour* (bbls.)	612,735	477,386	404,240
Stocks of Wheat* (bu.)	3,611,781	2,328,044	2,561,908

*As of the first day of the following month.



Monthly Flour Output, and Stocks of Wheat and Flour at End of Month of 16 Reporting Milling Companies

Production of 46 flour mills reporting through sectional millers' associations of this district was 9.1 per cent greater during October, 1923, than production of 45 mills reporting during September, 1923, and 33.8 per cent greater than production of 45 mills reporting during October, 1922. Figures follow:

	No. of Mills Reporting		Output		
	Oct., 1923	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1923 (barrels)	Sept., 1923 (barrels)	Oct., 1922 (barrels)
California ...	10	10	451,964	375,659	344,117
Idaho	3	3	13,765	16,446	10,630
Oregon	15	14	214,965	229,315	166,312
Washington .	18	18	539,409	496,173	389,851
District ...	46	45	1,220,103	1,117,593	910,910

Lumber

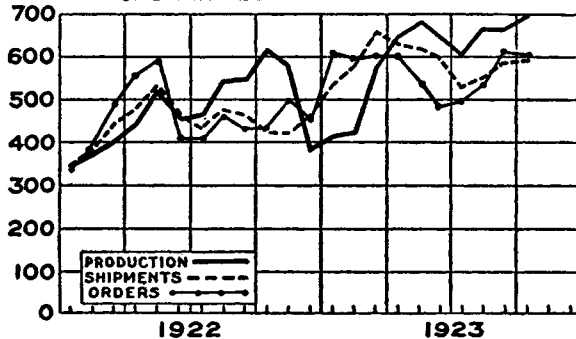
Production of lumber in the district reached a seasonal peak in October, when the cut of mills in four reporting associations (697,489,000 board feet) was greater than during any month of the past four years. The record cut exceeded both shipments on old orders and new orders received, indicating that mills were manufacturing for stock as well as for sale. Sale and distribution of lumber continued at high levels, however, new orders received and

shipments on orders previously booked having been approximately one-third greater than in October a year ago. Figures showing the activity of about 200 reporting mills follow (000 omitted):

	Oct., 1923 (board feet)	Sept., 1923 (board feet)	Oct., 1922 (board feet)
Production	697,489	663,054	628,693
Shipments	591,241	582,551	434,580
Orders	602,939	610,722	443,615
Unfilled Orders....	438,866	427,033	449,902

The slight decline in the volume of orders received in October as compared with September, 1923, was due in part to a seasonal decrease in domestic demand and in part to the reluctance of not a few mills to book further orders at this time. The smooth functioning of the country's transportation system during recent months has also been a factor in the situation. Ability of distributors to secure shipments when needed has obviated, to some extent, the necessity of anticipating future requirements, and the effect of this development is becoming apparent in figures of orders now being placed with the mills.

MILLIONS OF BOARD FEET



Lumber Production, Orders Received, and Shipments in Twelfth Federal Reserve District as Reported by Four Lumber Associations, 1922-1923

Declines in domestic demand for lumber have been largely offset by increases in demands of foreign customers. One of the largest factors in the export trade reports a gain of more than 40 per cent in export business during October, 1923, as compared with September 1923. Some shippers are reported to have experienced difficulty in securing sufficient cargo space to care for current export shipments and a small volume of this business has accumulated, forming a temporary obstacle to the acceptance of further orders. Freight rates on lumber shipped from Pacific Coast ports to the Orient advanced 50 cents to one dollar per thousand feet during October, and ranged from \$14 to \$15 per thousand feet at the beginning of November. The principal export markets for lumber during the past month have been Japan, China, and Australia, a marked increase in demand for California redwood having been a feature of the trade with the latter country.

Mining

The month of October in the mining industry was principally characterized by the efforts of copper producers to continue their mines in operation in the face of increasing stocks and declining prices for the metal. It is estimated that production of copper has exceeded consumption by approximately 10 per cent during the past few months, and during this period prices (electrolytic copper at New York) have declined from a peak of $17\frac{3}{8}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound to a low point of 12.125 to 12.25 cents per pound reached on October 25th. Prices have advanced since that date, the quotation on November 13th being 13.5 cents per pound. A recent inquiry into the cost of mining, smelting, and refining the copper of this district furnishes the following approximations of costs of placing on the market the metal from so-called "low cost" and "high cost" mines.

	High Cost Mines (cents per pound)	Low Cost Mines (cents per pound)
Copper	14.7-15.7	10.2-11.7

Effective November 1st, wages at many of the principal copper mines of Arizona and Utah were lowered 50 cents per shift. Preliminary estimates of output of copper in the United States during October indicate that production was over 130,000,000 pounds, a figure slightly above the previous peak month of August.

Final figures of national production of copper, silver, zinc, and quicksilver during September, 1923, August, 1923, and September, 1922, are presented in the following table:

	Sept., 1923	Aug., 1923	Sept., 1922
Copper (lbs.) (mine production)	125,289,025	129,377,401	96,407,992
Silver (oz.) (commercial bars)	4,998,386	5,292,607	5,324,873
Zinc (tons) (slab)	39,105	41,625	33,134
Quicksilver (flasks— 75 lbs., estimated)	800	800	550

Figures for lead are not available.

Average prices of all of the principal non-ferrous metals produced in the district were lower during October than during September, and with the exception of lead were lower than a year ago.

	Average Prices		
	Oct., 1923 (cents)	Sept., 1923 (cents)	Oct., 1922 (cents)
Copper (lb.) New York Electrolytic..	12.57	13.32	13.88
Lead (lb.) New York.....	6.83	6.85	6.53
Silver (oz.) New York.....	63.65	64.20	68.01
Zinc (lb.) St. Louis.....	6.29	6.44	6.84
Quicksilver (dollars per flask) San Francisco....	61.09	61.34	70.75

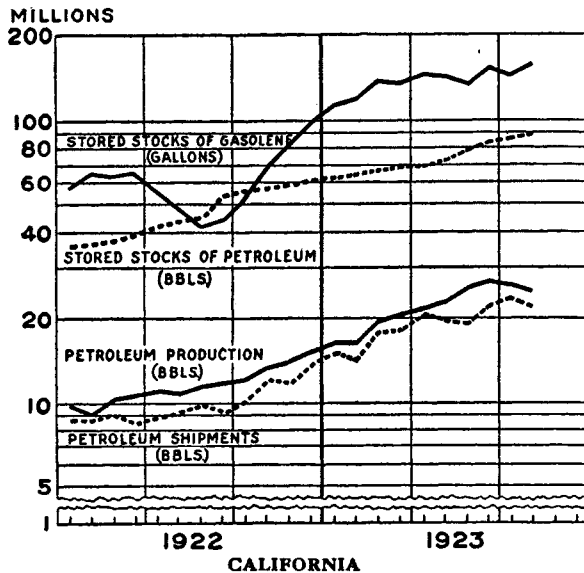
Petroleum

The rapid increase in production of petroleum in California, which has been in progress for the past two years, was checked, at least temporarily, during October when average daily production was 7.7 per cent smaller than during the previous month. The figures follow:

Average Daily Production of Petroleum in California
(in barrels)

October, 1923	September, 1923	October, 1922
792,787	858,750	432,885

Output is reported to have declined partly as the result of attempts of certain producers to curtail the flow of oil at their wells in view of present market and storage conditions, and



Production, Shipments, and Stored Stocks of Petroleum, and Refinery Stored Stocks of Gasolene, 1922-1923

partly as the result of the cessation of flush production in one of the newer fields of the state. There were 99 new wells brought in during the month with an initial daily production of 127,758 barrels. Wells abandoned numbered 33.

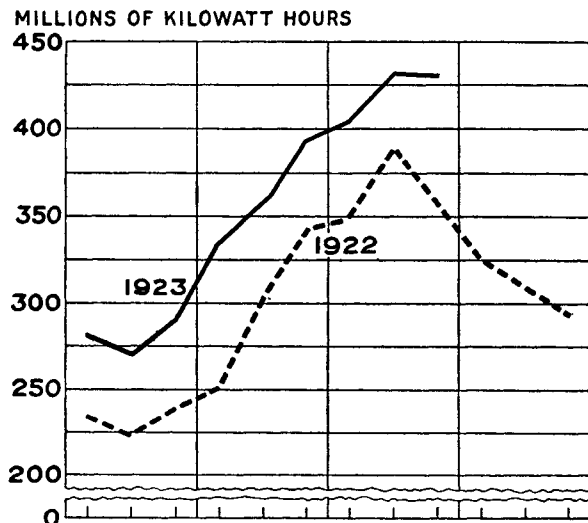
Shipments of petroleum from California declined more than did production during October, averaging 700,757 barrels per day or 10.1 per cent less than during September. The resultant increase in stored stocks amounted to 2,852,943 barrels or 3.3 per cent, and raised the total amount of oil in storage to 88,349,550 barrels on November 1st. As was stated in the Monthly Review for October, prices for crude oil in California were reduced on October 9th to the lowest levels since 1914.

Refinery output of gasolene declined 5 per cent during September, 1923, as compared with the previous month, but increased 15 per cent during October, and production during the lat-

ter month exceeded that of August, 1923, by 9.1 per cent. Consumption increased slightly during the past two months, but by a smaller amount than did production, and stored stocks on November 1, 1923, amounted to 158,441,451 gallons, an increase of 10 per cent over the 144,099,126 gallons held on October 1, 1923, and of 3.1 per cent over the amount (153,605,104 gallons) stored on September 1, 1923. Stocks on November 1, 1923, were 129 per cent larger than a year ago.

Electric Energy

Sales of electric energy for industrial purposes reported by 20 principal power companies were 19.6 per cent greater during September, 1923, than during September, 1922, all industries for which segregated figures are available showing increases. September sales did not show the usual seasonal decline as compared with August this year, a reflection both of sustained activity in industry and of



Total Industrial Sales (K. W. H.) of 20 Power Companies in Twelfth Federal Reserve District, 1922-1923

a continuing demand from agricultural consumers at a time when their need for power is normally declining. Percentage comparisons of sales by certain industries and by sections of the district are presented in the following table:

Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) September, 1923, compared with September, 1922

	Agriculture	Mining	Manufacturing	Total Industrial Sales
California	10.5	10.7	19.5	16.8
Pacific Northwest ...	-20.6	6.3	25.3	30.2
Intermountain States	-8.3	47.5	-5.5	18.5
Twelfth District.....	8.6	14.8	20.2	19.6

Figures showing the number of industrial consumers and industrial sales of reporting

companies during September, 1923, and 1922, follow:

	Number of Industrial Consumers		Industrial Sales K. W. H.	
	Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922	Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922
California	73,711	53,624	275,104,763	235,538,225
Pacific Northwest ..	12,471	11,013	89,125,276	68,452,870
Intermountain States	5,490*	10,534*	66,015,287	55,693,948
Twelfth District ...	91,672	75,171	430,245,326	359,685,043

*Due to a change in the statistical method of one reporting company these figures are not comparable.

Employment

The only important wage reduction in any of the principal industries of the district during the past year was reported from the copper mining sections of Arizona and Utah during October, when several of the principal copper mining companies in these states then announced that, effective November 1st, wages of both skilled and unskilled miners would be lowered 50 cents per shift. This reduction cancels the voluntary increase of March of this year, when the copper mines sought to attract needed workers by advancing wages. The following table shows changes in the average wages paid copper miners during the past year:

	Skilled	Unskilled
October 1, 1922–March 15, 1923..	5.25–6.50	4.50–5.00
March 15, 1923–November 1, 1923	5.75–7.00	5.00–5.50
November 1, 1923.....	5.25–6.50	4.50–5.00

Changes in employment in the district during October were largely seasonal, and in most sections it is reported that workers released from seasonal employment are being absorbed by non-seasonal industries. The urgent demand for apple pickers in the Pacific Northwest continued during October, and in Idaho, where efforts were being made to complete the harvest before the coming of winter, a shortage of agricultural workers was reported. There has been little change from last month in the number of men employed in the lumber industry. The supply of both skilled and unskilled miners available for work in the mining industry is increasing as the men who engage in other occupations during the summer return to the mining camps. Building and allied activities have continued to afford full employment for building trades workmen. Some surplus of skilled and unskilled workers of all kinds has been noted in California, largely the result of an influx of laborers from other sections of the country who spend their winters there because of the increased opportunities for employment.

Employment in manufacturing industries in Los Angeles and Portland declined 0.7 per cent and 3.5 per cent, respectively, during October as compared with September, according to reports of the United States Department of Labor. San Francisco reported an increase of 5.8 per cent, and Seattle no change during the

month. The following figures based on reports of 40 firms employing 501 or more men give a comparison of employment conditions in manufacturing industries during October, 1923, and 1922:

	Number of Firms	Number of Men on Payroll	Per Cent Increase Oct., 1923, over Oct., 1922
Los Angeles.....	16	33,834	17.4
Portland	8	8,805	14.6
San Francisco.....	10	8,504	10.7
Seattle	6	2,433	0.7

Automobile Registrations

Although the amount of the increase was smaller than in some previous months, sales of new automobiles during September, 1923, were still greatly in excess of sales during September, 1922. In four states for which comparable data are available there were 28 per cent more new passenger cars and 7.3 per cent more new commercial vehicles registered during September, 1923, than during September, 1922. During the first nine months of 1923, as compared with the same period in 1922, there was an increase of 66.2 per cent in registrations of new passenger cars in these states, and registrations of new trucks increased by 34.2 per cent. Figures showing registrations of new automobiles in the states of this district (except Nevada, for which figures are not available) for the first nine months of 1923 and 1922 are presented in the following table:

	Total New Passenger Cars Registered Jan. 1 to Oct. 1		Total New Commercial Cars Registered Jan. 1 to Oct. 1	
	1923	1922	1923	1922
Arizona	7,779	3,504	678	195
California	168,961	107,152	18,195	13,659
Idaho	7,464	3,725	547	356
Oregon	27,202	12,853	1,246	1,191
Utah	9,278	*	854	*
Washington	37,547	13,791	3,991	*
Total (4 states)	211,406	127,234	20,666	15,401

*Not available.

Total registrations of old and new automobiles in six states of the district (figures for Nevada are not available) to November 1, 1923, number 1,611,074, an increase of 32.7 per cent over the cars registered in the same period of 1922.

Preliminary figures compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago show that production of automobiles during October, 1923, was greater than in September, 1923, reaching the high levels of the previous August. Compared with October, 1922, this year's production shows a gain of 43.1 per cent. The figures follow:

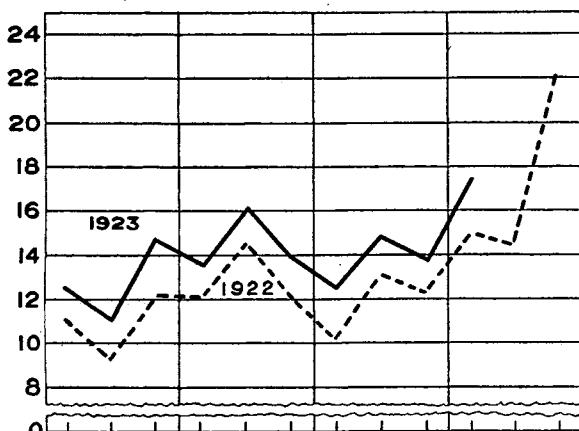
	Oct., 1923	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1922
Passenger Cars.....	310,105	275,437	216,034
Trucks	29,300	27,524	21,104
Total	339,405	302,961	237,138

Retail Trade

Trade at retail during October increased by more than the normal seasonal amount, according to reports of 35 department stores in seven cities of the district, and reached the highest levels of the present year. Compared with October, 1922, sales during the past month showed an increase of 15.9 per cent, and compared with September, 1923, an increase of 26.5 per cent, the latter gain being, of course, partly seasonal. All cities participated in the increase, both as compared with one month ago and one year ago.

Stocks of goods held by reporting stores increased 3.6 per cent during October, as purchases for the winter and Christmas trade continued to arrive. The value of stocks (selling price) held on November 1, 1923, was 15.7 per cent greater than the value of stocks held on November 1, 1922. The average annual rate of stock turnover indicated by figures of stocks and sales for the period July 1 to November 1, 1923, was 2.28 compared with a rate of 2.3 for the same period in 1922.

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS



Net Sales of 31 Department Stores in Twelfth Federal Reserve District (In Millions of Dollars)

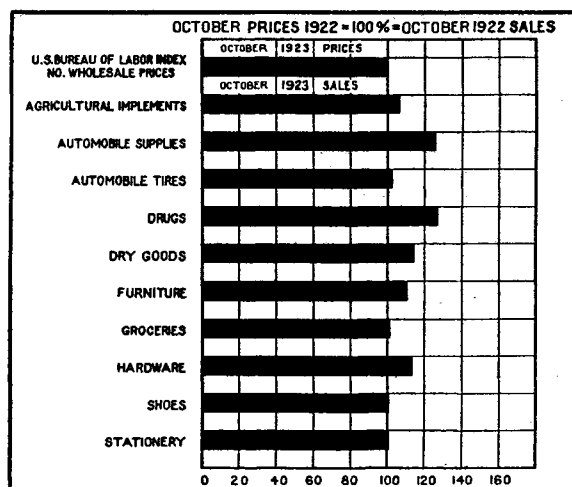
A detailed statement of the percentage changes in the value of sales and stocks of reporting department stores in this district follows:

	No. of Stores	Percentage increase in value of sales Oct., 1923, compared with		Percentage increase in value of stocks Oct., 1923, compared with	
		Oct., 1922	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1922	Sept., 1923
Los Angeles.....	6	26.6	29.8	31.1	3.3
Oakland.....	4	11.2	29.6	11.3	3.3
Salt Lake City... 4	4	6.1	20.9	17.8	8.9
San Francisco....	10	10.1	26.3	11.5	3.4
Seattle.....	5	10.7	11.8	7.0	5.6
Spokane.....	5	8.6	29.2	2.5	1.4
District*.....	35	15.9	26.5	15.7	3.6

*Figures for one store included in district figures, but not included in figures for cities shown above.

Wholesale Trade

Increasing activity in trade at wholesale was noted by the majority of the 200 wholesale firms which reported the value of their sales to this bank at the close of October. Of the eleven reporting lines of business, nine reported increases over the preceding month, and the decreases of approximately 5 per cent in sales of shoes and stationery may be ascribed to seasonal causes. All lines of business reported increases in the value of sales during October, 1923, as compared with October, 1922, automobile tires, which showed a decline of 10.7 per cent in September as compared with a year ago, showing an increase of 8.8 per cent.



Dollar Value of Sales of Representative Wholesale Firms and General Wholesale Prices in October, 1923, compared with October, 1922

Percentage increases or decreases (—) in the value of October sales of all reporting firms in each line of business are presented in the following table:

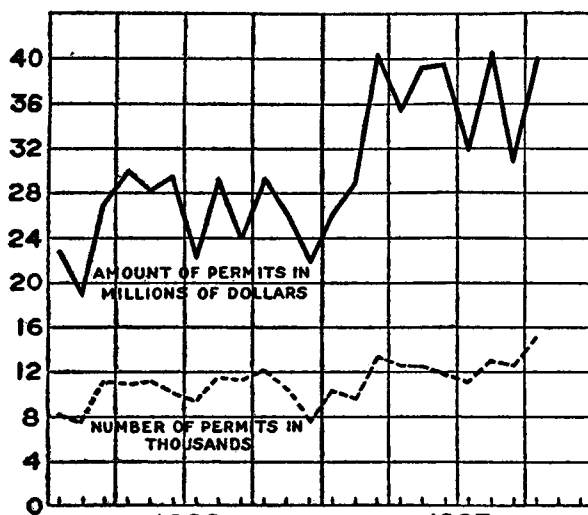
	Number of Firms	Ten Months Ending Oct. 31, 1923, compared with same period in 1922		
		Oct., 1922	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1923
Agricultural Implements	21	6.5	3.2	9.8
Automobile Supplies....	19	26.1	6.2	23.0
Automobile Tires.....	17	2.6	4.2	8.8
Drugs.....	8	27.2	10.3	16.7
Dry Goods.....	13	14.3	5.8	16.8
Electrical Equipment... 6	6	34.2	28.4	32.8
Furniture.....	16	10.7	18.5	23.8
Groceries.....	29	1.2	2.5	10.2
Hardware.....	21	13.5	8.0	22.4
Shoes.....	14	0.9	— 5.3	11.1
Stationery.....	29	0.8	— 4.9	14.3

Collections during the past three months have been reported as follows:

		Number of Firms Reporting Collections as			
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
August, 1923.....	5	48	79	7	
September, 1923.....	2	47	72	4	
October, 1923.....	9	57	77	4	

Building Activity

Continuance of greater than seasonal building activity throughout the winter months is forecast by the record of building permits issued in 20 of the principal cities of this district during October. The value of permits granted increased 29.8 per cent over September and was but 1 per cent less than in the record month of August, 1923. The number of permits was the largest issued in any month of which this bank has record, and exceeded the previous record number issued in March, 1923, by 13.3 per cent. As compared with September, 1923, the number of permits issued in October, 1923, showed an increase of 20.5 per cent.



Building Permits Issued in 20 Principal Cities, Twelfth Federal Reserve District, 1922-1923

(B) Building Permits

	October, 1923		October, 1922	
	No.	Value	No.	Value
Berkeley	311	\$ 1,224,225	224	\$ 420,000
Boise	80	32,448	91	49,951
Fresno	228	1,392,081	301	611,352
Long Beach..	489	2,336,695	425	1,248,801
Los Angeles..	6,632	20,541,872	4,951	11,580,427
Oakland	1,275	2,759,208	1,025	2,316,833
Ogden	34	47,100	36	58,800
Pasadena	436	1,062,362	434	1,297,256
Phoenix	71	217,424	47	154,788
Portland	1,679	2,136,360	1,213	1,519,185
Reno	17	26,710	13	46,900
Sacramento ..	364	448,897	301	1,378,486
Salt Lake City	125	481,955	108	297,480
San Diego.....	535	1,318,147	495	660,900
San Francisco.	909	3,793,374	679	4,719,394
San Jose.....	119	207,100	79	116,110
Seattle	976	1,219,270	1,013	2,249,035
Spokane	283	183,892	329	223,564
Stockton	164	323,700	139	168,199
Tacoma	413	275,636	351	220,698
District	15,140	\$40,028,456	12,254	\$29,338,159

The principal increases were in Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco.

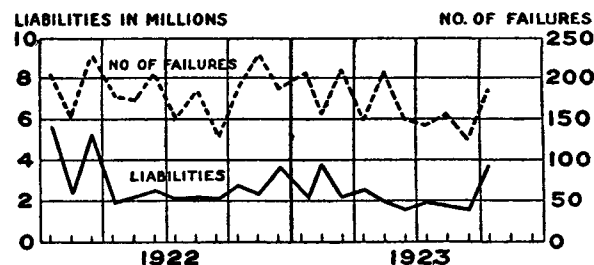
Percentage Increase in the Number and Value of Building Permits issued in 20 Cities

	Oct., 1923, compared with	
	Oct., 1922	Sept., 1923
Number of Permits Issued.....	23.6	20.5
Value of Permits Issued.....	36.4	29.8

The United States Department of Labor index number of building materials prices stood at 182 in October (1913 prices=100). This is unchanged as compared with a month ago, 0.5 per cent less than one year ago, and 12.1 per cent below the peak of April, 1923.

Business Failures

Business failures in this district during October, 1923, numbered 186, an increase of 50 per cent over the number of failures reported during September, 1923. Liabilities of failing concerns increased 141.5 per cent over the preceding month and, excepting February, were greater than in any month this year. Compared with October, 1922, the number and liabilities of business failures during October, 1923, increased 1.1 per cent and 34.4 per cent, respectively. The average liabilities of business failures in the district during October, 1923, amounted to \$20,061 compared with \$12,467 in September, 1923, and \$15,106 in October, 1922.



Business Failures, Twelfth Federal Reserve District, 1922-1923

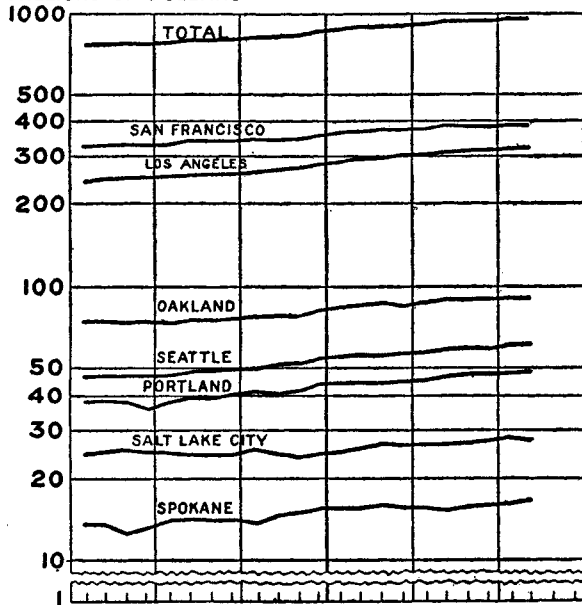
R. G. Dun and Company's preliminary figures of the number and liabilities of business failures in the states of the district during October, 1923, and September, 1923, follow:

	October, 1923		September, 1923	
	No.	Liabilities	No.	Liabilities
Arizona	2	\$ 14,943	1	\$ 1,000
California	96	2,327,693	50	580,662
Idaho	6	24,597	10	70,227
Nevada	5	16,306	1	500
Oregon	28	345,119	20	198,932
Utah	6	27,636	11	221,530
Washington	43	975,063	31	473,099
District	186	\$3,731,357	124	\$1,545,950

Savings Accounts

Savings deposits in 74 banks in seven principal cities of the district continued upward during October and amounted to \$955,447,000 on the last day of that month, a gain of 0.7 per cent over the \$948,946,000 reported on September 30, 1923. An exception to the general trend was noted in Salt Lake City where a decline of 2.9 per cent was reported during the month. Compared with October, 1922, the dis-

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS



Savings Accounts in Banks in Seven Principal Cities of the Twelfth Federal Reserve District, 1922-1923

trict figures for October, 1923, show an increase of 15.5 per cent. Detailed changes in the amount of savings deposits since one month ago and one year ago as reported by the 74 banks in seven cities follow:

	Number of Reporting Banks	Per Cent Increase or Decrease (—) Oct., 1923, compared with	
		Oct., 1922	Sept., 1923
Los Angeles.....	13	21.7	1.5
Oakland*	7	13.9	.5
Portland	9	18.1	1.4
Salt Lake City.....	8	12.0	-2.9
San Francisco.....	15†	10.5	.0
Seattle	16	20.0	1.4
Spokane	6	13.7	2.6
Total	74†	15.5	0.7

*Includes one bank in Berkeley which was formerly a branch of an Oakland bank.

†The consolidation of two reporting banks has reduced their number by one, but has not affected the value of reported figures for comparative purposes.

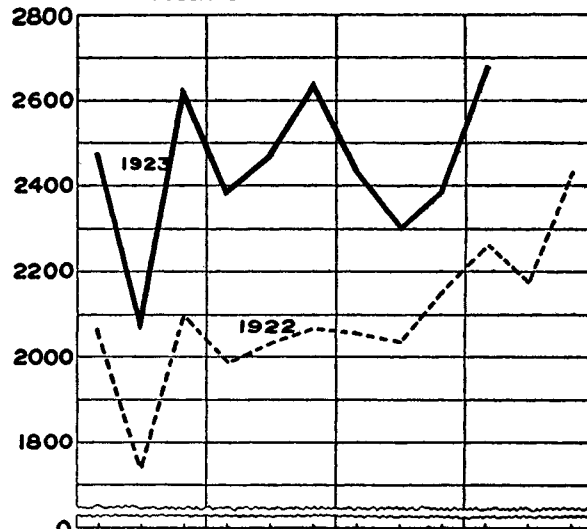
Bank Debits

Debits to individual accounts at banks in 21 clearing house centers were 18.3 per cent greater during October, 1923, than during Oc-

tober, 1922, and 12.3 per cent greater than during September, 1923. This latter increase is partly seasonal, but eliminating seasonal variations, the figures for October were larger than those for September. This is the first monthly gain in debits to individual accounts since last June, if correction is made for seasonal variations, and indicates an increase in the total volume of business being transacted in the district.

Comparative figures of debits to individual accounts at banks in 21 clearing house centers

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS



Debits to Individual Accounts in 20 Principal Cities, Twelfth Federal Reserve District, 1922-1923

(C) Bank Debits*—

	Four weeks ending Oct. 31, 1923	Four weeks ending Nov. 1, 1922
Berkeley	\$ 16,467	\$ 16,516
Boise	12,296	11,957
Fresno	59,085	67,859
Long Beach.....	56,590	38,507
Los Angeles.....	683,561	508,205
Oakland	107,365	101,728
Ogden	28,819	20,698
Pasadena	29,194	23,729
Phoenix	19,694	17,146
Portland	174,702	146,418
Reno	9,657	10,519
Sacramento	38,388	61,544
Salt Lake City.....	59,667	57,794
San Diego.....	38,527	36,015
San Francisco.....	735,351	693,751
San Jose.....	24,123	25,081
Seattle	160,591	151,170
Spokane	50,807	48,273
Stockton	23,582	21,885
Tacoma	34,321	37,311
Yakima	11,384	10,841
Total	\$2,374,171	\$2,106,947

*000 omitted.

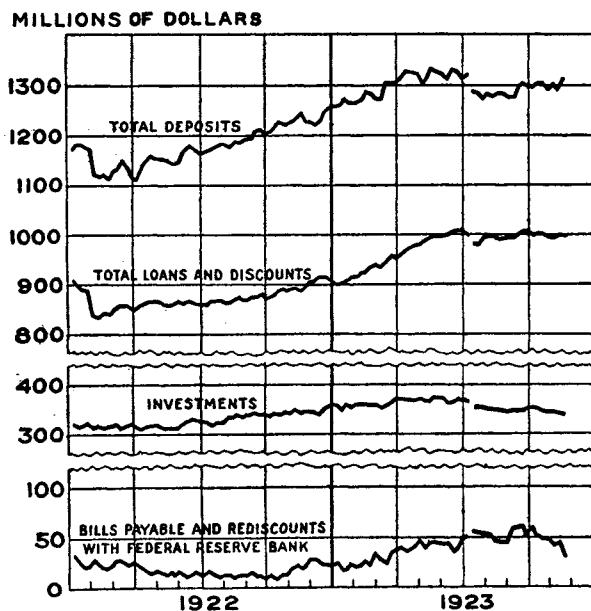
are presented herewith, with seasonal variations eliminated, for the months of October and September, 1923, and October, 1922:

October, 1923	September, 1923	October, 1922
\$2,427,000,000	\$2,335,000,000	\$2,037,000,000

The detailed figures shown in Table "C" (see preceding page) are grouped by four week periods, and therefore are not comparable with the monthly figures which are partly estimated.

Banking and Credit Situation

Total loans of 65 reporting member banks in the principal cities of the district declined from \$1,000,000,000 on October 10th to \$992,000,000 on October 31st, and then increased to \$999,000,000 on November 7th, making a net decline during the four weeks of \$1,000,000. During the corresponding period a year ago total loans of the reporting banks increased \$5,000,000. Investments of these banks declined \$5,000,000 during the four weeks ended November 7th, total deposits decreased \$12,000,000, and borrowings from the Federal Reserve

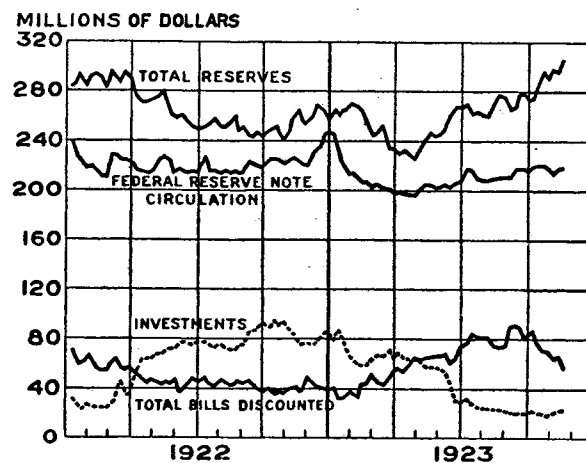


Total Deposits, Loans and Discounts, Investments, and Bills Payable and Rediscounts of Reporting Member Banks

Bank decreased \$9,000,000. Despite the decline in deposits last month (possibly a temporary movement), the general trend of deposits has been upward during recent months, at a period when total loans have remained approximately stable for nearly two months and investments have been gradually declining for five months, which probably accounts for the lessened need of member banks for accom-

modation from the Reserve Bank. Borrowings of member banks in leading cities from this bank have decreased \$17,000,000 since September 5th, when the autumn peak was reached.

Total discounts of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco declined \$15,000,000 during the four weeks ended November 14th, when they were \$57,000,000, the lowest figure reported since last April. Since September 5th, when they reached the autumn peak of \$91,000,000, total discounts of this bank have declined \$35,000,000, or 38.3 per cent. During the corresponding period a year ago, they declined \$8,000,000, or 17.6 per cent. Investments of the Reserve Bank increased \$3,000,000 during the four weeks ended November 14th, having in the meantime (October 24th) reached the lowest point in several years. Total re-



Total Reserves, Federal Reserve Note Circulation, Bills Discounted, and Investments, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

erves increased \$9,000,000 to \$306,000,000, a new high record figure in the bank's history. Federal Reserve Notes in circulation declined \$2,000,000. The amount of notes in circulation has been approximately unchanged for two months, as it was at this time last year.

A marked easing of interest rates at New York City was reported during the second half of October and the first part of November, the rate on time money declining from 5½ per cent to 5-5¼ per cent and the rate on prime commercial paper declining from 5¼ per cent to 5 per cent. During the corresponding period of 1922 both rates advanced one-fourth of one per cent. Average rates charged by large San Francisco banks to their customers on prime 30-90 day loans remained during October at 5½ per cent, although one or two banks reported slight reductions, while the rate on 4-6 months paper eased from 5½-6 per cent to 5½ per cent.

The acceptance market has changed little during recent weeks. City banks have been in the market only occasionally, while the increased demand for acceptances from country banks has been of smaller proportions than is usual at this season. The rate on prime acceptances remains unchanged at $4\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. Reports received by this bank from 35 of the principal accepting banks of this district show the following changes in the amount of bills

purchased and accepted during October, 1923, compared with September, 1923, and October, 1922:

	October, 1923, compared with	
	Sept., 1923	Oct., 1922
Amount of bills accepted	+45.7%	- 1.3%
Amount of bills bought	+45.1%	-46.4%
Amount of bills held at close of month	-33.4%	-64.8%

The principal commodities upon which these acceptances were based were coffee, lumber, wheat, fish, and raisins.

**PRINCIPAL RESOURCE AND LIABILITY ITEMS OF REPORTING MEMBER BANKS IN RESERVE
CITIES IN TWELFTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT**

	November 7, 1923	October 10, 1923	November 8, 1922
<i>Number of Reporting Banks</i>	65*	65*	66*
Loans and Discounts (including Rediscounts)	\$ 999,462,000	\$1,000,326,000	\$ 882,418,000
Investments	340,815,000	346,191,000	345,708,000
Cash in Vault and with Federal Reserve Bank	118,324,000	121,697,000	114,237,000
Total Deposits	1,290,582,000	1,303,080,000	1,233,826,000
Bills Payable and Rediscounts with Federal Reserve Bank	44,438,000	52,995,000	20,652,000

*Due to changes in the composition of the list of reporting banks, current figures are not exactly comparable with those of a year ago.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF SAN FRANCISCO
AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 14, 1923**

RESOURCES

	November 14, 1923	October 17, 1923	November 15, 1922
Total Reserves	\$306,106,000	\$296,789,000	\$263,513,000
Bills Discounted	56,579,000	71,217,000	37,211,000
Bills Bought in Open Market	14,276,000	11,394,000	34,169,000
United States Government Securities	9,185,000	9,185,000	41,992,000
Total Earning Assets	\$ 80,040,000	\$ 91,796,000	\$113,372,000
All Other Resources*	69,440,000	69,305,000	61,826,000
Total Resources	\$455,586,000	\$457,890,000	\$438,711,000

LIABILITIES

Capital and Surplus	\$ 23,123,000	\$ 23,018,000	\$ 22,760,000
Total Deposits	161,691,000	163,707,000	143,991,000
Federal Reserve Notes in Actual Circulation	218,795,000	220,519,000	221,984,000
All Other Liabilities†	51,977,000	50,646,000	49,976,000
Total Liabilities	\$455,586,000	\$457,890,000	\$438,711,000
*Includes "Uncollected Items"	53,101,000	54,031,000	55,333,000
†Includes "Deferred Availability Items"	49,779,000	48,472,000	46,392,000

A substantial, black, cloth-covered, three-ring binder, large enough to contain one year's (12) issues of this review, will be mailed prepaid to any address on our mailing list upon receipt of one dollar to cover actual costs.

CHANGES IN THE COST OF LIVING

The cost of living in the United States and in the five principal cities of this district increased during the year ending September, 1923, according to reports of the United States Department of Labor, continuing the upward trend observed in the latter part of 1922. Itemized figures showing percentage increases or decreases (—) from September, 1922, to September, 1923, follow:

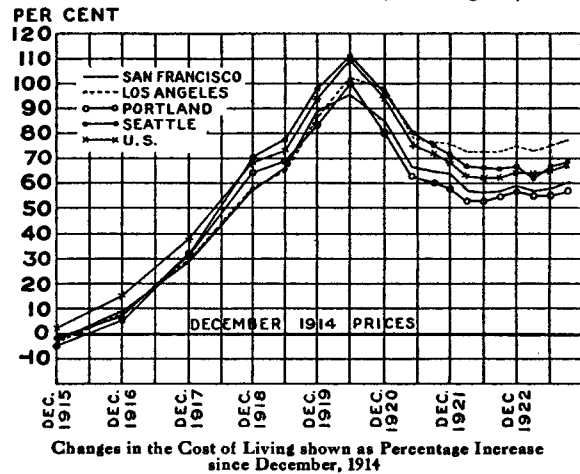
	Los Angeles		San Francisco and Oakland			United States
	Portland	Oakland	Seattle	United States		
Food	4.8	3.0	4.4	3.4	6.7	
Clothing	3.0	5.4	4.1	2.1	3.0	
Housing	2.5	-0.8	2.9	-0.5	2.0	
Fuel and Light	-1.5	1.9	-3.8	-2.9	-1.3	
Furniture and Furnishings	10.6	4.6	6.5	4.1	9.6	
Miscellaneous*	0.6	-2.3	-2.3	-0.4	0	
Total	2.7	1.4	2.1	1.1	3.5	

This upward movement in retail prices (upon which cost of living figures are based) reflects to some extent an earlier upward movement in wholesale prices. The United States Bureau of Labor's index number of wholesale prices has

*Miscellaneous items include street car fares, moving picture admissions, newspapers, medical services and medicines, dentist services, spectacles, laundry, cleaning supplies, barber services, toilet articles, telephone and tobacco.

changed during the past two years as follows (1913 prices=100):

January, 1922.....	138	(low of 1922)
December, 1922.....	156	(peak of 1922)
April, 1923.....	159	(peak of 1923)
August, 1923.....	150	(low of 1923)
October, 1923.....	153	(latest figure)



Detailed figures of changes in the cost of living in the United States and in the five reporting cities of this district from December, 1914, to September, 1923, are presented in the accompanying tables.

COST OF LIVING IN THE TWELFTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Percentage increase or decrease (—) December, 1914 to September, 1923
September, 1922 to September, 1923, and June, 1920 to September, 1923

City	Food			Clothing			Housing			Fuel and Light		
	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923
Los Angeles....	40.5	4.8	-26.3	83.6	3.0	-35.4	99.3	2.5	39.7	33.8	-1.5	-12.8
Portland	34.1	3.0	-35.2	61.8	5.4	-37.4	42.6	-0.8	7.0	62.1	1.9	10.3
San Francisco (and Oakland)	40.5	4.4	-27.5	93.8	4.1	-33.4	34.1	2.9	22.5	46.2	-3.8	.6
Seattle	36.1	3.4	-32.7	77.6	2.1	-35.1	62.6	-0.5	-6.9	58.2	-2.9	-4.5
United States*..	49.3	6.7	-31.8	76.5	3.0	-38.6	64.4	2.0	21.8	81.3	-1.3	5.4

City	Furniture			Miscellaneous			Total		
	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923	Dec., 1914 to Sept., 1923	Sept., 1922 to Sept., 1923	June, 1920 to Sept., 1923
Los Angeles.....	152.3	10.6	-16.5	101.0	-0.6	7.7	77.1	2.7	-12.1
Portland	109.6	4.6	-26.1	76.3	-2.3	-1.8	56.4	1.4	-21.9
San Francisco (and Oakland).....	117.1	6.5	-22.4	79.2	-2.3	.2	60.4	2.1	-18.1
Seattle	144.4	4.1	-23.9	96.6	-0.4	3.2	68.4	1.1	-20.0
United States*.....	122.4	9.6	-24.0	101.1	.1	.1	72.1	3.5	-20.5

*Base year 1913.

Those desiring this review sent them regularly will receive it without charge upon application.