# MONTHLY REVIEW <br> OF <br> BUSINESS CONDITIONS 

JOHN PERRIN, Chairman of the Board and Federal Reserve Agent Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

## SUMMARY OF NATIONAL CONDITIONS

Production of basic commodities continued in about the same volume in November as in the month before. The general level of prices remained unchanged. Activity of wholesale and retail trade was below the record level of October, but larger than in November of last year.

Production. Output of basic industries included in the Federal Reserve Board's index of production was at about the same rate in November as in October, but owing to a smaller number of working days the index declined by about 1 per cent. Increases occurred in average daily production of pig iron, steel ingots, copper, and bituminous coal, and in the consumption of cotton. Production of flour, sugar, and meat products declined. Automobile pro-

duction in November was seasonally less active than in October, but continued large for this time of the year. Employment and payrolls in manufacturing industries showed small increases in November as compared with October. Employment and workmen's earnings increased in the machinery industries, while in food products and tobacco, and in the clothing industry there were seasonal declines. Building contracts awarded were smaller in November than in October, but were large when compared with the volume for November of previous years. Final estimates by the Department of Agriculture indicate that the acreage of all crops harvested in 1925 was slightly larger than in 1924, but that the aggregate production of crops was in about the same volume.


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

Yields of cotton, corn and tobacco were considerably larger than last year, while the production of wheat, oats, potatoes and hay was smaller.
Trade. Sales in leading lines of wholesale trade showed the usual decline in November from the seasonally high levels of October, but continued larger than in the corresponding month of any of the past five years. Total

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

value of trade at department stores and mail order houses was smaller than in October, owing largely to the smaller number of business days in November. November department store sales were the largest on record for that month, however, and sales at mail order houses were larger than in any November of the past six years. Merchandise stocks at department stores showed considerably more than the usual increase in November and were 4 per cent larger than in November of last year. Distribution of commodities by railroads during November reached new high levels for the month. Movements of merchandise and miscellaneous commodities, coal, and coke were larger during the month, while movements of livestock, grain, and forest products were somewhat smaller than in November of the two preceding years.

Prices. Wholesale prices, according to the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, remained the same in November as in October. Prices of livestock, meats and cotton goods declined, but these decreases were offset in the general average by advances in prices of grain, fuel, lumber and rubber. In the first three weeks of December, prices of wheat flour and hardwood lumber were slightly higher than in

November, while quotations on cattle, cotton, coke, copper and hides were lower.

Bank Credit. At member banks in leading cities, the volume of credit outstanding on December 9th was near the high level reached early in November. Loans for commercial and agricultural purposes declined somewhat during the period, and there was also a decrease in the banks' security holdings. Continued growth

of loans on securities, however, was sufficient to offset these reductions and the total of loans and investments remained practically unchanged.

At the reserve banks the seasonal demand for currency and credit resulted in an increase in total bills and securities in December to the highest level in nearly four years. This increase in reserve bank credit in use has been in the form of discounts for member banks, as the volume of purchased bills held changed but little between the middle of November and the middle of December and holdings of United States securities also remained constant, except for a temporary increase connected with Treasury financing on December 15th. Money in circulation increased by $\$ 71,000,000$ between November 1st and December 1st, and the continued demand for currency in December was reflected at the reserve banks, both in increased Federal reserve note circulation and in a decline in cash reserves. During the latter part of November and the early part of December open market rates on commercial paper and acceptances remained substantially unchanged. Later in December increased demand for credit and currency, largely seasonal in character, was reflected in firmer money conditions.

## TWELFTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT CONDITIONS

| Statistical Summary- |  |  |  |  | Nov., 1925\#compared with |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Nov, | ${ }_{\text {Oct. }}^{\text {Oct }}$ | $\stackrel{\text { Nov, }}{1924}$ | $\xrightarrow{\text { Oct.e }}$ | Nov., | Oct. |
| Bank Debits-21 | \$2,825,317 | \$3,072,568 | \$2,425,295 | \$2,650,846 | 16.5 | 8.0 |
| Bank Debits-Index Numb | 146 | 148 | 125 | 128 | 16.8 | 1.4 |
| Building Permits-20 citie | \$27,884,388 | \$32,335,188 | \$28,604,122 | \$31,652,458 | -2.5 | 13.8 |
| Retail Sales-32 stores-Index | 161 | 158 | 146 | $147{ }^{\circ}$ | 10.3 | 1.9 |
| Savings Deposits-70 banks*§. | \$1,130,337 | \$1,124,992 ${ }^{\circ}$ | \$1,027,404 ${ }^{\circ}$ | \$1,026,139 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 10.0 | . 5 |
| Lumber Production-4 associations-board feet* | 683,770 | 726,098 | 578,562 | 703,507 | 18.2 | 5.8 |
| Petroleum Production $\ddagger$-California-bar | 636,530 | 645,648 | 592,234 | 603,115 | 7.5 | 1.4 |
| Flour Production-16 companies-barrels | 510.946 | 512,120 | 403,681 | 510,214 | 26.6 | 0.2 |
| Reporting Member Bank Loans and Discounts\|| | \$1,213,381 | \$1,186,316 | \$1,048,051 | \$1,049,592 | 15.8 | . 3 |
| Reporting Member Bank Depositsil | \$1,626,010 | \$1,618,829 | \$1,482,840 | \$1,512,941 | 9.7 | . 4 |
| Federal Reserve Bank Discountsf* | \$50,368 | \$50,308 | \$9,397 | \$6,652 | 436.0 |  |
| Federal Reserve Bank Ratiofl | 71.6 | 70.5 | 75.3 | 77.5 | -4.9 |  |

"In thousands. †Adjusted for seasonal variations- 1919 monthly average $=100$. $\ddagger$ Daily average production. §The consolidation of reporting banks has reduced their number, but has not affected the value of reported figures for comparative purposes. \|Dec. 9, Nov. 10. 1925, Dec. 10, Nov. 12, 1924. ©Dec. 16, Nov. 18, 1925, Dec. 17, Nov. 19, 1924. \#Percentage increase or decrease (-). ${ }^{\circ}$ Revised.

## Agricultural Activities

Final estimates of the Department of Agriculture, as of December 1st, indicate that agricultural output of the Twelfth Federal Reserve District in 1925 was considerably in excess of the small output of 1924, and was approximately equal to the five-year (1919-1923) average production. Prices paid farmers for most agricultural products, as measured by Department of Agriculture indexes of farm prices, were from 3 to 15 per cent higher than a year ago during the major harvesting and marketing periods. Prices of non-agricultural commodities, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' wholesale price indexes, were also higher during the autumn of 1925 than in 1924, but the advance was relatively less than in prices of farm products. As a result of these varying price movements, previously existing mal-adjustment was reduced and, in general, the purchasing power of the farmer's products in exchange for other commodities was increased. Estimated production and value of the district's chief crops, as reported by the Department of Agriculture, are given for the district and for the United States in table "A,"
together with index numbers of district production for certain groups of crops.

The 1925 yield of cotton in this district, 220,000 bales, exceeds by 23.6 per cent the previous record crop of 178,000 bales produced in 1920. Quality of the fibre grown is reported to be better this year than in 1924, except in parts of the Imperial Valley of California, where rainfall has damaged unpicked, open bolls during the past two months. A shortage of labor for cotton picking is reported from the Imperial Valley of California and the Salt River Valley of Arizona.

Marketing of new crop (1925-1926) oranges and lemons was normal in volume during November, 1925, although shipments were slightly smaller than in November, 1924. Returns ( $\$ 5.85$ per box for oranges and $\$ 3.14$ per box for lemons) to growers were 154 per cent larger for oranges and 36 per cent smaller for lemons than one year ago.

A record volume of fresh grapes was marketed from the 1925 crop in California, as indicated by figures of carlot shipments from that state. (Prices of shipping grapes are discussed in the "Prices" section of the Review, page 96.) The 1925 production of raisins of all
(A) Production and Value of Farm Crops-

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{\text { Twelfth District } \sim}{\sim}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unit | 1925 | 1924 | 5-Year Average $\dagger$ | 1925 | 1924 | 5-Year Average $\dagger$ | 1925 | 1924 | 1925 | 1924 |
| Wheat (all)........bu. | 100,227 | 71,000 | 115,641 | 669,365 | 862,627 | 856,178 | \$132,580 | \$93,640 | \$947,993 | \$1,136,596 |
| Barley ...........bu. | 45,816 | 20,444 | 40,338 | 218,002 | 178,322 | 174,329 | 33,325 | 20,871 | 127,653 | 137,270 |
| Rice . . . . . . . . . . . bu. | 4,738 | 4,497 | 7,645 | 33,959 | 33,249 | 41,357 | 8,055 | 7,465 | 52,246 | 47,053 |
| Beans .............bu. | 5,704 | 3,630 | 5,147 | 19,100 | 14,856 | 12,096 | 21,173 | 17,375 | 62,388 | 49,792 |
| Cotton . . . . . . . . . . .bales | 220 | 185 | 116 | 15,603 | 13,628 | 10,543 |  |  |  |  |
| Hay (tame) .......tons | 15,799 | 12,694 | 13,738 | 86,474 | 97,771 | 88,334 |  | 211,346 |  | 1,353,789 |
| Potatoes . . . . . . . . . bu. | 32,740 | 31,674 | 36,584 | 323,243 | 425,283 | 391,465 | 53,243 | 24,354 | 605,327 | 292,481 |
| Sugar Beets . . . . . . tons | 1,936 | 1,620 | 2,229 | 6,932 | 7,075 | 6,986 |  |  |  | 29, |
| Apples . . . . . . . . . . boxes | 46,866 | 37,161 | 35,454 | 164,616 | 171,250 | 89,700 | 57,878 |  | 207,820 |  |
| Peackes $\ddagger$. . . . . . . . boxes | 16,251 | 13,331 | 15,644 | , |  |  | 14,626 | 9,975 |  |  |
| Pears .............boxes | 10,467 | 7,700 | 7,690 |  |  |  | 32,492 | 7,605 |  |  |
| Oranges . . . . . . . . . boxes | 18,100 | 23,095 | 18,946 | 32,200 | \$ 36,500§ | 36,500§ | 40,320 | 49,000 | 64,290§ | 64,940§ |
| Lemons $\ddagger$. . . . . . . . boxes | 5,125 | 6,840 | 4,527 | . . |  |  | 14,640 | 10,771 |  |  |
| Indexes \\| (Production) | 1925 | 1924 | $1923-\mathrm{T}$ | elfth Dist $1922$ | 1921- 1920 | 1919 |  |  |  |  |
| Grainsli . | 94.9 | 62.3 | 121.1 | 88.9 | 106.693 .5 | 90.0 |  |  |  |  |
| Field Crops ${ }^{\circ}$ | 107.9 | 90.9 | 100.4 | 96.2 | 93.5109 .3 | 100.6 |  |  |  |  |
| Fruits\# ... | 115.8 | 104.7 | 127.0 | 108.0 | 82.489 .8 | 92.7 |  |  |  |  |

potatoes, rice, sugar beets. \#Apples, peaches, pears, prunes, raisins, oranges, and grapes.
Note: 1925 production and 1924 and 1925 value figures are subject to revision.
kinds and grades in California is estimated at 200,000 tons, compared with 180,000 tons in 1924 and a five-year (1919-1923) average output of 206,300 tons. Figures of bearing acreage and carlot shipments of grapes in California follow:

GRAPES-California $1925 \quad \begin{gathered}\text { Five.Year } \\ \text { Average* }\end{gathered}$ Bearing Acreage (acres)......... $60190,943 \dagger \quad 528,419 \quad$ Average* Total Carlot Shipments (cars) .... 73,000† 56,110 36,137 *1919-1923. †Preliminary estimate. †Three-year (1923-1925) average.
Source: United States Department of Agriculture and California Department of Agriculture.


## DECIDUOUS FRUITS-Califoraia

The chart shows the seasonal movement of interstate shipments of grapes and of other important deciduous fruits, except apples, from California, and the growth of bearing acreage of these fruits during the past three years. Charted figures of shipments are for that part of California north of the Tehachapi Pass. During the five years, 1921-1925, total production of all varieties of grapes in California averaged approximately 126,000 carloads per year, and average shipments of fresh grapes from the state approximated 46,000 carloads or 36.5 per cent of average annual production. The 1921-1925 five-year average production of other important deciduous fruits, except apples, was approximately 76,000 carloads, and average shipments (fresh) were approximately 14,000 carloads or 18.4 per cent of average production during the same period. These figures and the chart illustrate the relatively great dependence of grape shippers upon markets outside of California.

* November Grape shipments include December shipments.
$\dagger$ August Grape shipments include shipments made during previous
-August "Other Deciduous" shipments include shipments made during subsequent months of the year
$\ddagger$ June "Other Deciduous" shipments include shipments made during previous months of the year.

Seasonal rains fell in many parts of the district during late November and the first weeks of December. The rains, which generally came after completion of the harvest, aided fall plow-
ing and planting operations and improved the condition of previously sown grain crops.

Growth of feed on livestock ranges and pastures was stimulated and water supplies were replenished by the November-December rainfall. Livestock, generally, are reported to be in satisfactory condition, and available feed supplies, where winter feeding is necessary, are estimated to be ample.

## Industrial Activity

Industrial activity and volume of employment in this district declined seasonally during November, but continued at higher levels than a year ago.

Indications of a slight decline in building activity were reported during November, 1925, and value of building permits issued in 20 principal cities of this district was less by 2.5 per cent than in November, 1924. Compared with October, 1925, the value of permits issued showed a decrease of 13.8 per cent. The estimated normal seasonal decrease from October to November is 14.7 per cent. Total value of building permits issued in these cities during the first eleven months of 1925 was 6.6 per cent greater than during the same period of 1924, and approximately the same as the total for the eleven months' period of 1923. Recent trends of activity in the building industry in this district, as shown by monthly and year-todate comparisons of building permit figures, are indicated in the following table:


The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics' index number of building material prices advanced 1.0 per cent during November, and at 176 (1913 prices $=100$ ) for that month was 2.3 per cent above the figure reported a year ago.
(B) Agricultural Marketing Activity-

| Monthly | Ex $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ Wheat ${ }^{*}$ Barley* |  | $\text { Apples }{ }^{*} \text { Carlot Shipments }-\longrightarrow$ |  |  | Livestock Receipts <br> at Eight Markets in 12th District |  |  | Cold Storage Holdings? 12th District |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Portland and | San | 12 h | Oranges $\dagger$ | Lemons $\dagger$ | Cattle |  |  | Butter | Eggs |
|  | Puget Sound | Francisco (1000 bu.) | Dist. <br> (cars) | Calif. <br> (cars) | Calif. (cars) | and Calves | Hogs | Sheep | $\left.\begin{array}{c} (1000 \\ \text { lbs. } \end{array}\right)$ | (1000 cases) |
| November, 1925. | 1,057 | 1,252 | 8,907 | 3,409 | 439 | 135,349 | 206,257 | 199,854 | 2,409 | 191 |
| October, 1925. | 1,382 | 1,000 | 16,056 | 827 | 724 | 144,353 | 162,175 | 440,452 | 3,064 | 334 |
| November- 5 -year average. (1919-1923) | 2,461 | 808 | 9,618 $\ddagger$ | 2,082 | 397 | 121,670¢ | 220,839 ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 185,703 | 2,342 | 147 $\ddagger$ |
| Cumulative | Crop Year |  |  |  |  | Calendar Year $\longrightarrow$ |  |  |  |  |
| To November 30, 1925. | 6,792 | 8,792 | 34,500 | 3,409 | 439 | 1,204,714 | 2,029,702 | 3,015,504 |  |  |
|  | (6.8) | (19.2) | (51.3) | (6.7) | (2.9) |  |  |  |  |  |
| To November 30, 1924. | - $\begin{array}{r}13,615 \\ (19.2)\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6,633 \\ (32.4) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 28,755 \\ & (62.5) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4,160 \\ & (8.7) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 643 \\ (5.6) \end{array}$ | 1,175,130 | 2,380,015 | 3,009,007 |  |  |
| Five-year average to November | .. 13,495 | $\begin{array}{r} (32.4) \\ 7,784 \end{array}$ | $32.066 \ddagger$ | $\begin{aligned} & (8.7) \\ & 2.082 \end{aligned}$ | (5.6) 397 | 1,050,001 [ | 1,784,703 | 2,893,335 |  |  |
| (1919-1923) | (11.7) | (19.3) | (63.3) | (4.4) | (3.5) | 1,050,001 |  | 2,89,33 |  |  |

 average (1922-1925). 8At end of month. $\$ 1921-1925$.

The Aberthaw index of industrial building costs stood at $194(1914=100)$ on December 1 st, having shown no change since June 1st. During this time the index has been at a slightly lower level than during the corresponding period in 1924.

Lumber production at reporting mills of four associations in this district decreased seasonally during November, 1925, as compared with October, 1925, but exceeded shipments and new orders received by 13.6 per cent and 3.4 per cent, respectively. Both production and new orders received by mills during November were larger in volume than shipments, so that stocks of lumber held by mills and unfiled orders on their books increased. Activity in the industry continued at higher levels than a year ago.


Daily average production of petroleum in California during November, 1925, was 1.4 per cent less than in October, 1925. Indicated consumption increased during the month but continued less than production with the result that on November 30, 1925, stored stocks again reached a new record figure, 126,206,832 barrels.

*Peak of production. †Comparable figures not available. Source: American Petroleum Institute.

National production of the chief commercial non-ferrous metals, a considerable proportion of which is mined in the Twelfth Federal Re-

serve District, was smaller in November, 1925, than in October, 1925, and November, 1924.

| NON-FERROUS METALS-National Production |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Nov., 1925 | Oct., 1925 | Nov., 1924 |
| Copper (lbs.) (mine production) | 135,794,000 | 141,248,000 | 136,692,000 |
| Silver (oz.) (commercial lars) | 4,777,000 | 4,933,000 | 5,522,000 |
| Zinc (tons) (slab) | 46,485 | 50,497 | 42,633 |

Flour output of 16 reporting milling companies in this district was 0.2 per cent less in volume during November, 1925, than during October, 1925, which compares with a five-year average decrease of 10.3 per cent between these two months. Mill stocks of flour increased 7.1 per cent during November, but on December 1st were 24.6 per cent less than the five-year average of stocks held on that date. Millers increased their holdings of wheat during November, and, at 4,479,321 bushels on December 1st, stocks of wheat held by them were 36.1 per cent larger than the five-year average for December 1st, and the largest reported since January 31, 1920.

|  |  | FLOUR MILLING* |  | Five-Year <br> Average |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov. |  |  |  |  |

*As reported by 16 companies. $\dagger$ As of the first day of the following month.

## General Business and Trade

During November, general business activity in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District declined slightly from the high levels of October, but continued well above the levels of one year ago. The volume of trade is estimated to have been approximately 4 per cent above normal (the computed trend) during the month.


This bank's index of bank debits, based upon figures of debits to individual accounts reported by banks in 20 principal cities of this district, declined from 148 (1919 monthly average $=100$ ) in October, 1925, to 146 in November, 1925, due allowance being made for usual seasonal variations. In November, 1924, the index stood at 125 .


Index for 20 principal cities, Phoenix, Arizona, not included, (1919 monthly average $=100$ ). Latest figures, November, with adjustment, 146; without adjustment, 144.

When allowance is made for usual seasonal variations, value of trade at retail appears to have been greater during November, 1925, than during any other month of the post-war period, the result of greatly increased sales in the city of San Francisco. Indexes of sales of 32 department stores in 7 principal cities of the district declined 6.4 per cent during November as compared with October, but the decrease was less than the usual seasonal decrease from October to November, estimated at 8.1 per cent, and the index, when adjusted for seasonal variations, advanced from 158 ( 1919 monthly average $=100$ ) in October to 161 in November.

## (E) Bank Debits*_



In November, 1924, the adjusted index stood at 146. Stocks of goods on reporting retailers' shelves were 1.1 per cent larger on November 30, 1925, than on November 30, 1924. The increase over the year period was less than that of sales, however, and the annual rate of stock

turnover, 3.0 times per year in November, 1925, was greater than that of 2.78 times per year, indicated for November, 1924.
 sale trade, as indicated by figures of 181 firms, declined seasonally during November, 1925, but in ten of the eleven lines sales increased as compared with a year ago. In comparing value of sales during November, 1925, and November, 1924, however, account must be taken of the increase in wholesale prices over the year period, the United States Bureau of Labor Sta-
tistics' index standing at 158 for November, 1925, as compared with 153 for November, 1924.

*Preliminary. †Decrease largely due to discontinuance by certain of the larger companies of "spring dating" sales, or the practice of advancing credit on sales made in autumn months until March, April, and May of the following year.

On November 30, 1925, savings deposits at 70 banks in 7 principal cities of the district were 0.5 per cent larger in amount than on October 31,1925 , and were 10.0 per cent larger than on November 30, 1924.

|  | SAVINGS DEPOSITS |  |  |  | Nov. 30, $1925 \dagger$ compared with |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number } \\ \text { of } \\ \text { Banks } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov. } \\ & 30 . \\ & 1925^{*} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct. } \\ & 31 . \\ & 1925^{*} \end{aligned}$ | Nov. 30 $1924^{*}$ | compar. Nov. 30. 1924 | $\begin{gathered} \text { ed with } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 31, \\ 1925 \end{gathered}$ |
| Los Angeles | 13 | \$385,862 | \$383,372 $\ddagger$ | \$340,010 $\ddagger$ | 13.5 | 0.6 |
| Oakland | 7 | 99,337 | 99,126 | 92,794 | 7.1 | 0.2 |
| Portland | 8 | 53,316 | 53,322 $\ddagger$ | 52,254 |  | $-0.01$ |
| Salt Lake City |  | 29,661 | 29,990 | 29,059 |  | -1.1 |
| San Francisco | . 14 | 465,432 | 462,970 | 423,076 | 10.0 | 0.5 |
| Seattle ...... |  | 77,080 | 76,658 | 70,151 | 9.9 | 0.6 |
| Spokane |  | 19,649 | 19,554 | 20,060 $\ddagger$ | -2.0 | 0.5 |
| Total | 70 \$1 | 1,130,337 | 124,992 | ,027,404 $\ddagger$ | 10.0 | 0.5 |

## Prices

According to the index of the Bureath of Labor Statistics, the general wholesale price level stood at 157.6 ( 1913 prices $=100$ ) for November, 1925, compared with 157.5 for October, 1925, 159.7 for September, 1925, and 152.7 for November, 1924. The farm products and cloth and clothing groups of the index declined dur-
ing the month, each decrease being approximately 1.5 points ( 0.9 per cent). Increases in the remaining groups of the index (foods, fuel and lighting, metals, building materials, chemicals and drugs, house furnishings, and miscellaneous) ranged from 0.5 to 4.0 points, the largest increase being in the miscellaneous group, which has relatively little weight in the index as a whole. Compared with a year ago, the November figures showed increases for all groups, save cloths and clothing, and house furnishings.

Wheat quotations continued to advance during November and the first weeks of December. At Chicago the May, 1926, contract, which sold for $\$ 1.52 \frac{1}{8}$ to $\$ 1.54$ per bushel on November 18 th, was selling for $\$ 1.651 / 8$ to $\$ 1.691 / 8$ per bushel on December 18th, an advance of approximately 32 cents per bushel since the 1925 low point reached on October 3rd. Present (December 18, 1925) quotations compare with quotations of $\$ 1.701 / 8$ to $\$ 1.731 / 4$ on December 18,1924 , and $\$ 2.023 / 4$ to $\$ 2.051 / 2$ per bushel on January 30, 1925 (1925 high) for the May, 1925, contract.

Prices of hogs, sheep, and lambs, at Chicago markets, strengthened during November, while catcle prices tended to decline. At the chief markets of this district cattle and lamb prices advanced slightly and hog quotations declined slightly during the month.

An average of 98 wool quotations on the Boston market advanced 3.35 cents ( 4.6 per cent) to 81.33 cents per pound during the month ending December 4th. The average stood at 96.64 cents per pound on December 4 , 1924. Cotton quotations strengthened slightly during November, but remained lower than a year ago. Spot middling uplands cotton at the New Orleans market sold for 19.50 cents to 20.05 cents per pound at the end of November as compared with quotations of 18.05 cents to

*Ratio of farm prices (August, 1909-July, 1914=100) to wholesale prices of non-agricultural commodities (1910-1914=100). $\dagger$ Revised. $\ddagger$ November 16, 1925. §As published by "The Lumber Manufacturer and Dealer." ${ }^{\circ}$ Quoted at $\$ 5.25$ per 100 lbs . on December 21,1925 .
19.82 cents per pound at the end of October, 1925 , and 23.00 cents to 23.70 cents per pound at the close of November, 1924.

Prices paid for certain varieties of fresh grapes at California shipping points, as reported by the Department of Agriculture, during the past two seasons are given in the table below:


Monthly average prices of copper, lead, and zinc increased 0.4 per cent, 2.4 per cent, and 4.0 per cent, respectively, during November, continuing at higher levels than a year ago. Average monthly prices of silver were slightly lower in November than in October, 1925, and November, 1924. Lumber prices at Pacific Northwestern producing centers changed little during November.

## Banking and Credit Situation

During 1925 the total volume of credit extended by member banks in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District rose to record levels. Demand for Reserve Bank credit, if measured by total discounts, reached higher levels than in 1924 and, if measured by total earning assets, reached higher levels than in any year since 1921.

Total loans and investments of reporting member banks in the district increased throughout the year. At $\$ 1,691,000,000$ on December 9, 1925, they were at the highest figure ever recorded, and were $\$ 220,000,000$ or 15.0 per cent larger than a year ago. Total deposits also increased during the year. The increase was not so great, either actually or relatively, as that of total loans and investments, however, hence the ratios of total deposits to total loans and investments and of total deposits to total loans declined. During October and November, 1924, these ratios were at record levels for the postwar period.


Increase in loans, and in investments, relative to deposits of reporting member banks during the year 1925 was reflected in a corresponding increase in their borrowings from the Reserve Bank. Total loans and investments of these banks increased by approximately $\$ 63,000,000$ more than did their deposits, and their borrowings from the Reserve Bank increased by approximately $\$ 57,000,000$.


Increase in the volume of reporting member bank credit in use in this district during the year was chiefly the result of an increase of $\$ 165,000,000$ ( 15.8 per cent) in total loans, the principal item of which was an increase of $\$ 105,000,000$ in commercial loans. The increase in loans on securities, amounting to $\$ 61,000,-$ 000 (27.9 per cent) was, however, relatively greater than the increase in commercial loans ( 12.6 per cent). For all reporting member banks in the United States, the relative increase (17.4 per cent) in loans on securities was approximately six times greater, and the actual increase ( $\$ 833,000,000$ ) was approximately three and one-half times greater than the increase in commercial loans $(\$ 246,000,000$ or 3.0 per cent) during the year.

Demand deposits of reporting member banks in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District declined during the first six months of the year and increased thereafter, movements which were partly seasonal in character. The net movement for the year ending December 9, 1925, was a decrease of $\$ 7,000,000$. Time deposits including savings deposits, increased almost without interruption during the whole
of 1925, and on December 9, 1925, were $\$ 157$, 000,000 (23.6 per cent) larger than on December 10, 1924.

| REPORTING MEMBER BANKS*-Twelfth District (In millions of dollars, percentage cbanges in parentheses.) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Condition } \\ \begin{array}{c} \text { Onec. Month } \\ \text { 1925. } \end{array} \\ \text { Changes from } \\ \text { One Year } \\ \text { Ogo } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Total Loans | 1,213 | +27 (2.3) | $+165$ | $15.8)$ |
| Commercial Loans | 935 |  | +105 | 12.6) |
| Loans on Securiti | 278 | + 4 (1.4) | 61 | 27.9) |
| Investments | 477 | + 3 ( 0.5 ) | 55 | 13.0 |
| Total Loans and Investments | 1,691 | +30 ( 1.8$)$ | +220 | 15.0) |
| Net Demand Deposits | -798 | +10(1.3) |  | $0.9)$ |
| Time Deposits | 823 | + 2 (0.2) | $+157$ | 23. |
| Borrowings from Federal Reserve Bank. | 60 | + 7 (12.7) | $+57$ | 844.6) |

*Total resources of reporting banks are approximately $50 \%$ of total resources of all banks, and $75 \%$ of total resources of all member banks in Twelfth Federal Reserve District. Reporting banks embrace member banks in Los Angeles, Oakporting Oanks embrace memaler Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Spokane, and Tacoma.

Fluctuations in demand for Reserve Bank credit during 1925 have reflected, in a general way, the course of member bank credit. The trend of total discounts was steadily upward from January to November, since when there has been some liquidation. As a result of this upward movement total holdings of bills and securities were $\$ 13,000,000$ ( 12.2 per cent) larger on December 16, 1925, than on December 17, 1924. Holdings of United States securities and of bills purchased in the open market declined over the year period. Open market operations of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, however, reflect national as well as local (Twelfth District) conditions.


Figures for Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, as of last Wednes. day of each month. Latest figures, November 25

Noteworthy changes in the balance sheet of the Federal Reserve Bank over the year period (December 17, 1924, to December 16, 1925) have been:

1. An increase of $\$ 41,000,000$ or 436.0 per cent (to $\$ 50,000,000$ ) in volume of bills discounted for member banks, principally city member banks. On December 1, 1925, total discounts were higher, excepting the figure of $\$ 75,000,000$ reported on November 3, 1925, than at any time since October, 1923.
2. A moderate increase, $\$ 10,000,000$ or 6.1 per cent, in total deposits, chiefly member bank reserve deposits.
3. A decline of $\$ 9,000,000$ or 4.0 per cent in the amount of Federal reserve notes in actual circulation.
4. A decline of $\$ 13,000,000$ or 4.6 per cent in total money reserves held. Payment of gold into circulation and for export was a factor in this decline.
5. A resulting decrease from 75.3 to 71.6 in the ratio of total reserves to combined deposit and Federal reserve note liabilities.

*Formerly published as "Total Earning Assets." $\dagger$ Formerly published as "Discounts." $\ddagger$ Formerly published as "Purchased Acceptances."

On November 23, 1925, the rediscount rate at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, on all classes and maturities of paper, was raised from $31 / 2$ per cent to 4 per cent. The $31 / 2$ per cent rate had been in effect since August 25, 1924. Interest rates charged by member banks in principal cities of the Twelfth Federal Reserve District remained relatively stable throughout the entire year at levels slightly above those of the last six months of 1924.

INTEREST RATES - COMMERCIAL PAPER*-Twelfth District

|  | $\mathrm{Dec}_{1925} 12 \cdot 15$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov. Week } \\ & 1925 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ending } \\ & \text { Dec. } 15, \\ & 1924 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov. } 15, \\ 1924 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Los Angeles | 6\% | 6\% | 6\% | $53 / 4 \%$ |
| San Francisco | 5-51/2\% | 5\% | $5-51 / 2 \%$ | $51 / 2 \%$ |
| Portland | 6\% | 6\% | 6\% | 61/2\% |
| Salt Lake City. | 6\% | 6\% | $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| Seattle ....... | 6\% | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| Spokane | 5-6-7\% | 7\% | 7\% | $7 \%$ |

*30-60-90 day maturity, eligible for rediscount under the Federal Reserve Act.

Demand for intermediate and long time agricultural credit, as differentiated from the short time credits extended by the Reserve Bank, decreased moderately during the year. Total loans outstanding of the Joint Stock Land Banks, Federal Land Banks and Federal Intermediate Credit Banks of the district, at $\$ 156,895,000$ on November 30, 1925, were $\$ 1,-$ 875,000 (1.2 per cent) smaller than on November 30, 1924. The decrease was the result of decreased borrowing at the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank and the Federal Land Bank at Berkeley, California. Increased borrowing was reported from all states of the district, except California.

Vol. IX

Agricultural Marketing: Trends, Activity.......3, 11
$19,27,36,44,52,60,67,75$
(See also Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity)

## Automobile Registrations:

By states in the Twelfth District, 1923-1924...6, 14

## Bank Debits:

By months for 21 Cities in the Twelfth District.5, 13 $22,29,38,45,53,61,69,78,85,94$
Banking and Credit Situation: $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots . .7,15$ $24,32,40,48,56,64,72,80,88,96$
Barley: .....................19, 51, 59, 67, 71, 75, 83, 91
(See also Tables: Grain and Field Crops, Production; and Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity)
Beans:
$.51,59,67,75,83,91$
Beet Sugar: (See Sugar Beets)
Building Activity:
Permits by months for 20 Cities in the Twelfth District $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots .1,12$
$\mathfrak{2 1}, 28,36,44,52,60,68,76,84,92$
Business Failures: (See Failures-Business)
Butter:
(See also Agricultural Marketing and Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity)
Canned and Dried Fruits: $\ldots \ldots \ldots . .5,21,53,61,69$ (See also Prices and Tables: Commodity Prices)

## Charts:

Bank Credit:
All Federal Reserve Banks...................2, 10, $26,42,50,58,74,90$
Member Banks in Leading Cities of the United
States $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots . .10,18,26,34,66,74,82,90$
Bank Debits in 21 Principal Cities of the Twolfth District, $1922-1925 \ldots 29.38,46,53,61,69,78,85,94$ (See also Charts: Debits to Individual Accounts, etc.)
Building Permits-Value in 10 Principal Cities of the Twelfth District, 1920-1925...........21, 36, 52
Crop Production and Farm Prices, October, 1924, and October, 1925.
Debits to Individual Accounts in 20 Principal Cities of the Twelfth District, 1923-1924. (See also Charts: Bank Debits, etc.)
Department Store Sales: In the United States . ......................2, 42, 58 In the Twelfth District (See Charts: Retail Trade in the Twelfth District)
Factory Employment (and Payrolls) in the United States ..................18, 34, 50, 66, 82
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco-Principal Resource and Liability Items, 1924-1925 15, 48 1922-1925........................... . 24, 32, 64, 72, 9
Lumber-Production, Orders and Shipments by 4 Lumber Associations, 1923-1924.....4, 11, 20, 28 Member Banks (reporting) in the Twelfth Dis-trict-Principal Resource and Liability Items, 1924-1925 .................................... 15, 48 1922-1925 ................... $24,32,56,64,72,80,88,96$

## Charts (Continued): Page

Prices of Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Commodities, 1919-1925 .....................40, 70
Prices of Native Cattle, Light Hogs, and Aged Sheep at Chicago, 1925.......................... 31
Production in Basic Industries of the United States, Index of.............................. 9
Rediscount Operations, Comparative, 1920 -1925:
(Last page of Supplement to March Issue)
Retail Trade in the Twelfth District, 1923-1924.. 6 1922-1925...13, 22, 30, 38, 46, 54, 62, 70, 78, 86, 94 Wholesale Prices, United States Bureau of Labor Statistics' Index, 1922-1925 ............... 9
$17,25,33,41,49,57,65,73,81,89$
Citrus Fruits (Oranges and Lemons): (See Fruits -Marketing, Production and Prices)
Cotton: .......................35, 51, 59, 67, 75, 83, 91
(See also Prices, Tables: Grain and Field Crops, Production, and Tables: Commodity Prices)
Dairy and Poultry Products: (See Butter and Eggs)
Department Store Sales in the Twelfth District:
(See Retail Trade and Charts: Retail Trade in Twelfth District)
District Conditions (Statistical Summary): ....18, 26 34, 42, 50, 58, 66, 74, 82, 91

## Dried Fruit: (See Canned and Dried Fruit)

Eggs:
(See also Agricultural Marketing and Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity)
Electric Energy:
Consumption, Production, and Sales...12, 21, 29, 45
Employment:

$20,27,36,44,52,60.68,76,84,92$
(See also Industrial Activity and Tables: Employment)
Failures-Business: $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots .6,14,23,31,39,46$
Federal Intermediate Credit Banks: ............48, 97
Federal Land Banks: ............................... 48, 97
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco:
(See Banking and Credit Situation)
Field Crops: ..................................35, 43, 51
(See also specific crops, such as Cotton, etc., and Tables: Grain and Field Crops, Production)
Financial Conditions in Twelfth District:
(Supplement to March Issue)
Flour:
Production, Millers' Holdings, Market........4, 12
Holdings, Market. $\ldots .2 .4,12$
$20,29,37,45,53,61,69,77,85,93$
Fruits-Marketing, Production and Prices:
Canned and Dried (See Canned and Dried Fruits)
Citrus (Oranges and Lemons)...............27, 35
(See also Prices and Tables: Orchard Crops, and Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity)
Deciduous .....................35, 43, 51, 59, 67, 76
Grapes .............................67, 76, 83, 91
(See also Prices and Tables: Orchard CropsProduction, Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity and Tables: Commodity Prices)
Gasolene: (See Petroleum)

## INDEX



## Savings Accounts: <br> Comparative figures by Cities in the Twelfth Dis-

 trict $\ldots \ldots .6,14,23,30,39,47,55,62,70,79,86,95$Statistical Tables: (See Tables)
Sugar Beets: . . . . . . . . . 27, 35, 43, 51, 59, 67, 75, 83, 91
(See also Tables: Grain and Field Crops, Production)
Tables:
Agricultural Marketing Activity $\ldots \ldots \ldots 1$
Automobile Registrations, 1923-1924...........6, 14
Bank Debits at 21 Cities in the Twelfth District.
$6,13,22,30,38,46,54,62,70,78,85,94$
Building Permits in 20 Cities of the Twelfth Dis-
trict, 1923-1924 .................................. 5
1924-1925 .. 12, $21,29,36,44,52,61,68,76,84,93$

Farm Prices, Index Numbers of.................. 79
Department Store Sales................................. 23,30
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco-Changes in Principal Items of Condition Statement...8, 15 $24,32,40,48,56,64,72,80,88,97$
Federal Intermediate Credit Banks.............. . 48
Federal Land Banks, 1924-1925................. . . . . 48
Fruit, Canned . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 56
Fruit, Canning, 1922-1925 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 56
Grain and Field Crops-Production........ $67,75,89$
Joint Stock Land Banks................................ 48
Livestock, Prices of...
$.55,63,87$
Metal Prices, 1924-1925 ................................. 64
Member Banks (Reporting) in the Twelfth Dis-trict-Changes in Principal Resource and Liability Items $\ldots . .$.
Nuts-Prices, Production ........................ . . 80 (See also Tables: Orchard Crops-Production)
Orchard Crops-Production. . . . . . . . . . 59, 67, 75, 83
Petroleum ..4, 12, 20, 29, 37, 45, 53, 61, 69, 77, 85, 93
Potatoes and Grapes-Production and Shipments
83, 87
Rainfall Data for the Twelfth District, 1923-1924. 27
Rediscount Rates, Changes in.................... . . . 88
Retail Trade
$.6,13$
(See also Tables: Department Store Sales)
Salmon Pack
(See also Prices, p. 87)
Savings Accounts ............6, 14, 23, 30, 39, 47, 55 (See also Tables: Savings Deposits)
Savings Deposits ......................62, 70, 79, 86, 95
Shipments-Deciduous Fruits .................... 76
Statistical Summary....
Stock on Farms (Wheat and Barley)-Per Cent of Crop Shipped Out of County Where Grown 19
Wholesale Trade .................................. . . 5,13

$$
22,30,39,46,54,62,70,79,86,95
$$

Wheat: . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 59, 83, 91
(See also Prices, Tables: Agricultural Marketing Activity, Tables: Grain and Field Crops, and Tables: Commodity Prices)
Wholesale Trade:
Activity, Collections, Prices, Statistics of Sales in Twelfth District ................................5, 13
$22,30,38,46,54,62,70,78,86,94$
Wool:
Consumption, Production and Prices.........3, 19 $27,35,43,52,60$
(See also Prices and Tables: Commodity Prices)


