

MONTHLY REVIEW

OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS

ISAAC B. NEWTON, Chairman of the Board and Federal Reserve Agent
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

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No. 12

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL CONDITIONS

Prepared by the Federal Reserve Board

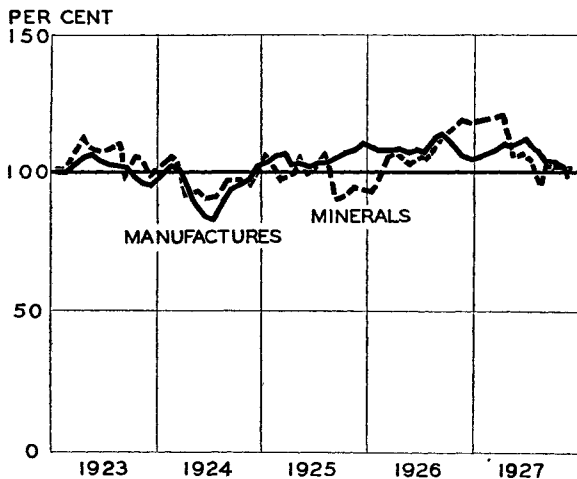
Industrial activity and freight carloadings declined further in November, while retail trade showed more than the usual seasonal increase. The general level of wholesale commodity prices, after advancing for four months, remained practically unchanged in October and November.

Production. Output of manufactures and minerals was reduced in November; and the combined index of production, after adjustments for customary seasonal variations, fell below the 1923-1925 average for the first time since 1924. The principal decline was in the output of automobiles, owing largely to preparation for production of new models. Iron and steel production also declined further and in November was lower than at any time since 1924. In December, however, inquiries for iron and steel increased. Textile mill activity was slightly curtailed in November but continued at a higher level than in previous years. There were decreases in the production of coal, build-

ing materials, and leather and shoes. Building contract awards showed seasonal declines in November and the first two weeks of December and were slightly smaller than in the corresponding period of last year.

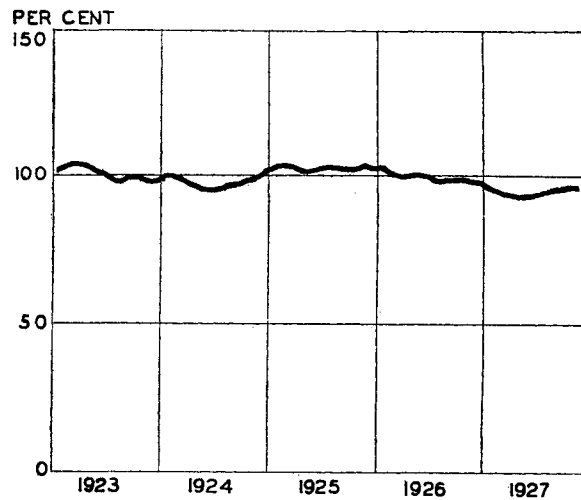
The total value of about fifty crops in 1927 is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at \$8,430,000,000, an increase of \$635,000,000 over 1926. The greatest increases in value were shown for cotton, corn, barley, and oats, while the largest decrease for any individual crop was shown for potatoes. The physical quantity of production of the seventeen principal crops was about 2 per cent less than last year, but 3 per cent above the average of the last ten years.

Trade. Retail trade increased slightly more than is usual in November. Compared with a year ago, sales of department stores, mail order houses, and chain stores were in larger volume, while sales at wholesale continued slightly below last year's levels in nearly all reporting



PRODUCTION OF MANUFACTURES AND MINERALS

Index numbers of production of manufactures and minerals, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-1925 average=100). Latest figures, November, manufactures, 98; minerals, 101.



WHOLESALE PRICES

Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1926 prices = 100, base adopted by Bureau). Latest figure, November, 96.7.

Requests for early numbers of this Review have been received from universities and libraries whose files of the publication are incomplete. It would be appreciated if those readers who have available copies of the Review for months prior to January, 1923, would forward them to the Federal Reserve Agent, Federal Reserve Bank, San Francisco.

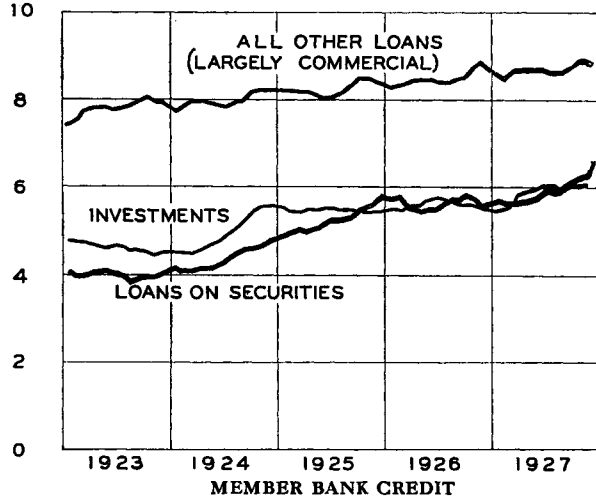
lines. Freight carloadings declined during November, and in the early part of December were smaller than in the corresponding period for the last four years. There were large decreases in loadings of all classes of commodities.

Prices. The general level of wholesale commodity prices, as measured by the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, after a continuous advance since early in the summer, remained at practically the same level in November as in

ber banks in leading cities showed a considerable increase, reflecting continued growth in the volume of loans on securities and in the banks' investment holdings. In the same period loans chiefly for commercial purposes, which reached a seasonal peak in October, showed a further slight decline.

At Federal Reserve Banks, the seasonal increase in currency requirements and the continued demand for gold for export during the

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

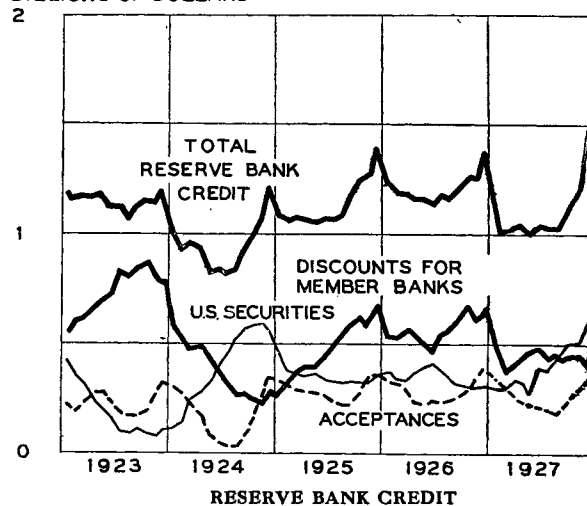


MEMBER BANK CREDIT
Monthly averages of weekly figures for banks in 101 leading cities.
Latest figures are averages for first two weekly report dates in December.

October. Changes were relatively small in all groups, increases occurring in foods and hides and leather, and decreases in farm products, textiles, fuels, and building materials. In the first two weeks of December prices of wheat, cattle, hogs, cotton, pig iron, and softwood lumber declined, while those of silk, woolen goods, hides, and sole leather advanced.

Bank Credit. From mid-November to mid-December total loans and investments of mem-

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



RESERVE BANK CREDIT
Monthly averages of daily figures for 12 Federal Reserve Banks.
Latest figures are averages of first 21 days in December.

ber banks in leading cities showed a considerable increase, reflecting continued growth in the volume of loans on securities and in the banks' investment holdings. In the same period loans chiefly for commercial purposes, which reached a seasonal peak in October, showed a further slight decline.

Somewhat firmer conditions in the money market in December were reflected in increased rates on call money. Rates on prime commercial paper and bankers' acceptances remained unchanged during the month.

TWELFTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT CONDITIONS

A continuance of previously noted declines in industrial activity, seasonal expansion in trade, and maintenance of sound credit conditions, characterized the business situation in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District during November. Crop yield and marketing statistics which became available during the month furnished further evidence that generally satisfactory financial returns would be realized from the year's operations in agriculture and livestock raising.

The incidence of demand for credit has tended to shift from agriculture and industry to trade during recent weeks. Commercial loans of reporting member banks are not now so large in amount as they were a year ago, but it is probable that industry and trade have been

accommodated, to some extent, by the proceeds of loans on securities, which are in record volume. Demand deposits at reporting banks have increased since the mid-summer low point and growth of time deposits has continued, so that total deposits of these banks on December 14th were 17 million dollars or 0.9 per cent larger than six months ago and 79 million dollars or 4.6 per cent larger than a year ago. As total loans of the banks increased but 4 million dollars over the year period, most of this increase in deposits is reflected in a substantial rise in investment holdings. More extended use of discount privileges at the Reserve Bank has accompanied the November-December expansion in demand for credit but the amount of Federal reserve funds in use is still relatively small.

Discount holdings of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco increased from 29 million dollars to 44 million dollars during the four weeks ended December 14, 1927, and were 16 per cent larger on that date than one year ago. Interest rates for commercial paper hardened slightly during the past month.

Reported data on **building, lumbering, mining, and flour milling** show slight declines in activity during November, as compared with one month ago and one year ago. Figures of **employment** tend to confirm this evidence of a moderate decrease in industrial production. **Distribution and trade**, on the other hand, have been well maintained during recent months at levels equal to or slightly above those of a year ago. This bank's index of **retail** (department store) sales (1923-1925 daily average=100) stood at 116 in November, 1927, 113 in October, 1927, and 112 in November, 1926, allowance being made for seasonal fluctuations. Our seasonally adjusted index of sales at **wholesale** (1923-1925 monthly average=100) stood at 104 in November, 1927 and 1926. The figure for October, 1927, was 96. The comparison with one year ago makes no allowance for a decline of about 2 per cent in the general level of wholesale prices during the past year.

The generally satisfactory outcome of the agricultural year has been marred only by the marketing difficulties of certain groups of producers, notably some of the deciduous fruit growers of the Pacific Coast States and the potato growers of Idaho. In evaluating the results of the agricultural year, it should be noted that the farmers of the district will not be obligated to use so large a proportion of the year's financial returns in liquidating old debts, as has been necessary during each of the past several years.

Agriculture

Final estimates of agricultural production in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District during 1927 indicate that, in the aggregate, crop yields were larger than in 1926 and above the average of recent years (see Table "A"). The unit

value of farm products during major crop moving periods was, on the whole, higher in 1927 than in 1926, so that an increase in gross farm income may be anticipated. The price maladjustment which has existed for the past several years between those products which the farmer sells and those products which he buys was further reduced during 1927. An index of the farmer's relative purchasing power, computed by dividing the United States Department of Agriculture's index number of farm products prices at the farm (August, 1909-July, 1914 prices=100) by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index of wholesale prices of non-agricultural commodities (1910-1914 prices=100), stood at 92.4 in October, 1927, which, with the exception of August, 1925, was the highest point reached since June, 1920. The figure for November was 91.6. Although not all of the important crops of this district are represented in the index, and although some crops are included which are not of great importance here, its major movements may reasonably be used to confirm (for the district) the general trends noted above.

Mild winter weather, with normal seasonal rainfall, has favored growth of fall-sown grains in the district. In the colder regions of the Pacific Northwest, mid-December snows have greatly reduced the possibility of loss by freezing of the young crop. Shipments of **wheat** from Columbia River and Puget Sound ports during the 1927 crop year to December 1st totaled 34,710,000 bushels. Shipments during the same period a year ago were 24,946,000 bushels, and the five-year (1923-1927) average shipments to December 1st have been 14,985,000 bushels.

Shipments of **grapes** from California largely ceased, following the rains of early November. For the season to December 3rd, 73,722 carloads of grapes had been shipped as compared with 63,581 cars shipped during the corresponding period of 1926. Present estimates indicate that production of **raisins** in California will total 285,000 tons this year. There were 272,000 tons produced in 1926.

(A) Production and Value of Farm Crops—

Unit	Production*						Value*			
	Twelfth District			United States			Twelfth District		United States	
	1927	1926	5-Year Average ¹	1927	1926	5-Year Average ¹	1927	1926	1927	1926
Wheat (all).....bu.	133,754	103,368	102,989	871,691	832,305	807,731	\$143,490	\$119,498	\$974,694	\$997,589
Barley.....bu.	41,427	42,933	40,609	265,577	191,182	192,707	35,531	25,709	180,127	109,677
Rice.....bu.	8,960†	7,986†	6,084†	40,231	41,006	36,387	10,304†	10,462†	37,728	44,988
Beans.....bu.	6,531‡	6,459‡	5,593‡	16,872	17,139	16,140	17,293‡	18,959‡	48,732	50,232
Cotton.....bales	187§	243§	174§	12,789	18,618	13,649	...	16,608§	1,254,000	1,016,346
Hay (tame).....tons	15,312	14,454	14,329	106,216	86,377	90,969	172,869	161,342	1,206,650	1,216,678
Potatoes (white).....bu.	56,076	41,726	36,661	402,149	357,800	394,182	36,948	44,768	387,870	506,721
Sugar Beets.....tons	1,510||	913||	1,642||	7,737	7,537	6,942	7,049||	...	54,964	59,706
Apples||.....boxes	35,715	40,182	37,914	77,700	117,285	111,130	43,943	27,989	103,530	85,618
Peaches.....bu.	20,500†	21,252†	16,866†	45,463	68,425	54,014	10,675†	19,977†	50,494	67,079
Pears.....bu.	10,811#	14,320#	10,678#	18,072	25,644	20,756	14,323#	11,921#	23,902	22,742
Oranges.....boxes	22,540†	29,100†	23,477†	32,540°	33,900°	33,897°	67,620†	87,300†	100,620°	92,790°
Lemons†.....boxes	6,400	7,200	5,908	...	...	...	17,600	14,400	...	...

*000 omitted. †California. ‡California and Idaho. §Arizona and California. ||California, Idaho, and Utah. ¶Commercial crop.
 #California, Oregon, and Washington. °California and Florida. ¹ 1922-1926.
 Source: United States Department of Agriculture.

Smaller shipments of **apples** from principal producing sections of the district reflect an 18 per cent decrease in production during 1927 as compared with 1926.

APPLES—Carload Shipments

	June 1st to November 27th		Five-Year (1923-1927) Average
	1927	1926	
California	2,918	4,473	3,872
Idaho	6,250	3,077	4,300
Oregon	2,235	5,138	4,044
Utah	393	436	613
Washington	18,052	23,931	21,377
Twelfth District	29,848	37,055	34,206
United States	63,658	96,230	85,621

Source: United States Department of Agriculture.

Unit returns to the apple growers are reported as somewhat greater than a year ago. Average seasonal prices, f.o.b. Pacific Northwest, for Extra Fancy Winesap apples during the past five years follow:

**APPLE PRICES—EXTRA FANCY WINESAP—
F. O. B. Pacific Northwest**
(In dollars per box)

Year	August	September	October	November
1927	2.13	2.13	2.20	2.33
1926	1.35	1.41	1.33	1.33
1925	1.88	1.81	2.07	2.14
1924	1.88	2.11	2.21	2.30
1923	1.65	1.60	2.03	1.45

Source: United States Department of Agriculture.

The 1926-1927 California **citrus fruit** season may be characterized as one of increased yields, heavy shipments, and profitable returns to the grower. The condition of the 1927-1928 crop of **oranges** and **lemons** is reported to be below that of last year's crop at this time. Shipments of oranges and lemons from California during November, 1927, totaled 1,277 and 448 carloads, respectively, as compared with 3,085 and 617 carloads shipped during November, 1926. The late maturity of the 1927-1928 Navel orange crop has delayed shipments of this fruit.

The United States Department of Agriculture's **cotton** production reports for December 1st show a slight increase over the November 1st estimate for Arizona and California, the latest figure being 187,000 bales. On November 1st a preliminary estimate of 181,000 bales was made. A year ago production was 243,000 bales.

Further improvement of **ranges** and **pastures** in the district was reported during November. **Livestock** on winter ranges, benefited by ample forage and supplementary feed supplies, are in excellent condition. The market for range animals continued active.

Continued improvement in the economic condition of livestockraisers has been a noteworthy feature of the general agricultural situation in this district during 1927. Attractive market prices, particularly for cattle, have induced livestock men to finish and market a larger than usual proportion of their herds and flocks, and fewer unfinished animals will be sent to feedlots for fattening this winter than were finished for

market in this manner a year ago. The report smaller volume of so-called "feeder" operation for the 1927-1928 season may also be account for partly by the continued tendency of the livestock industry to build up its breeding herds tendency particularly noticeable among sheep raisers.

Some contracting of the 1928 **wool clip** has been reported in the Intermountain states prices ranging from two to three cents per pound above those of a year ago.

Industry

The decline in industrial activity, which has been in progress since midsummer, continued during November. The downward movement now approximates in extent the upward movement of the first half of the year and during recent months production has been at about the levels of a year ago.

Statistical and non-statistical reports of volume of **employment** show declines during November, as compared with October, 1927, a November, 1926. Such decreases, as compared with a year ago, have been noted during each of the past seven months.

Building and construction activity during 1927 failed, by a small margin, to reach the records of the previous four years, and approximated the record of 1922. Value of permits granted in 20 of the district's principal cities during 1927 to December 1st was 6.0 per cent smaller than value of permits granted in the first eleven months of 1926. November building permits figures have been distorted by the issuance of permits valued at approximately million dollars, covering construction of public buildings in Los Angeles upon which work commenced several months ago. Allowing for this unusual factor in the total figure for November, 1927, value of permits granted in cities of the district, as reported by S. W. Stra

(B) Employment—

Industries	California		Oregon	
	No. of Firms	No. of Employees Nov. 1927 Nov. 1926	No. of Firms	No. of Employees Nov. 1927 Nov. 1926
All Industries	790	139,827 150,008 (-6.8)	169	30,765 29,200 (5.1)
Stone, Clay and Glass Products ..	49	7,422 (-4.9)	5	125 (-33.2)
Lumber and Wood Manufactures ..	130	28,064 (0.3)	65	19,318 (10.9)
Textiles	18	2,670 (-4.5)	12	2,025 (-9.2)
Clothing, Millinery and Laundering ..	66	7,959 (-0.7)	9*	461 (0.0)
Foods, Beverages and Tobacco...	167	27,687 (-3.9)	46	3,442 (13.0)
Water, Light and Power	5	8,391 (-2.4)	..	..
Other Industries† ..	340	55,346 (-12.5)	..	..
Miscellaneous	15	2,288 (-15.5)	32	5,394 (-9.0)

*Laundering only. †Includes the following industries: metal machinery and conveyances; leather and rubber goods; chemicals, oils and paints, printing and paper goods. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage changes from November, 1926.

and Company, was slightly larger than the value for November of last year and approximated the figure for October, 1927.

Building materials prices at wholesale declined during November to the lowest levels in recent years. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics' index of building materials prices stood at 90.2 (1926 prices=100) for November, 1927, as compared with 91.6 for October, 1927, and 100.1 for November, 1926. The Aberthaw index of industrial building construction costs, including both labor and materials, which stood at 191 (1914 costs=100) on December 1st, has remained unchanged since the first of October. A year ago, the figure was 197.

The Pacific Coast lumber industry was seasonally less active during November, 1927, than during October, 1927. Figures of production, indicated consumption (shipments), and orders received, reported by four associations, were all larger in November than one year ago, due in part to an increase in the number of mills reporting data this year. Production continued to outrun consumption, the excess in November, 1927, being more than twice as large as in October (15 per cent as against 7 per cent). Current lumber trade information indicates that lumber manufacturers, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, are loath to expand sales at present prices.

LUMBER*—Twelfth District

	Nov., 1927 (board feet)	Oct., 1927 (board feet)	Nov., 1926 (board feet)
Production	760,929	831,839	678,939
Shipments	663,871	777,485	634,949
Orders	646,725	732,545	580,325
Unfilled Orders†	431,881	452,670	444,868
No. of Mills Reporting‡	192	193	179

*As reported by four associations, 000 omitted except in case of number of mills reporting. †Reported by three associations. The figures are not strictly comparable with other figures. ‡Average.

Daily average output of petroleum from California wells during November was about 10 thousand barrels less than in October, 1927. Production of crude oil in that state has tended downward since December, 1926. Consumption

(C) Building Permits—

	November, 1927		November, 1926	
	No.	Value	No.	Value
Berkeley	177	\$ 440,437	212	\$ 552,585
Boise	165	41,865	57	62,353
Fresno	98	284,817	110	93,768
Long Beach	424	584,050	338	513,905
Los Angeles	3,084	17,464,327*	2,943	8,688,255
Oakland	492	1,908,713	791	1,809,968
Ogden	28	175,500	20	44,650
Pasadena	242	1,036,539	234	579,213
Phoenix	114	199,373	100	194,155
Portland	760	1,261,645	908	2,099,925
Reno	28	94,850	21	37,850
Sacramento	205	284,855	182	369,378
Salt Lake City	84	267,808	91	389,880
San Diego	585	763,840	745	2,001,466
San Francisco	592	6,382,171	765	3,293,891
San Jose	91	218,255	97	500,490
Seattle	675	3,193,430	800	2,280,840
Spokane	177	248,006	160	219,415
Stockton	75	132,310	79	235,711
Tacoma	144	273,590	179	321,980
District	8,240	\$35,256,381*	8,832	\$24,289,678

*Includes permits for public buildings of an indicated value of \$9,750,000 already under construction for several months, but for which issuance of permits was delayed until November.

of petroleum continued in larger volume than production, and combined holdings of heavy and refinable crude oil were smaller at the end of the month than at its beginning. A slight increase in gasoline stocks at California refineries was reported during November, 1927. Refiners' stocks of gasoline on November 30, 1927, were 14.2 per cent larger in volume than one year ago.

PETROLEUM—California

	Average Daily Production (barrels)	Average Daily Consumption (Shipments) (barrels)	Stored Stocks at End of Month (barrels)	— New Wells — Number Opened	Daily Production (barrels)
Nov., 1927....	617,216	625,744	115,179,167	55	27,980
Oct., 1927....	627,384	659,000	115,435,022	61	26,101
Nov., 1926....	639,104	641,805	118,830,709	91	62,588

Source: American Petroleum Institute.

Figures of national non-ferrous metals production, together with a guide to the proportionate importance of this district in such production, are presented in the following table:

NON-FERROUS METALS

	National Production			Per Cent of Total Produced in 12th Dist.*
	Nov., 1927	Oct., 1927	Nov., 1926	
Copper (short tons) (mine production)	67,813	68,828	75,240	64.1
Lead (short tons) (crude) †	57,558	56,740	52,722	43.5
Zinc (short tons) (slab) ..	49,217	50,185	55,062	13.3
Silver (oz.) (commercial bars)	5,077,000	4,930,000	4,920,000	69.7

*Including all of Arizona, the five southeastern counties of which are in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District. †Includes figures for Mexico.

Flour production in this district declined during November from the seasonal peak levels of October. Data reported by 13 large milling companies, operating 19 mills, for which comparable figures are available since 1920, showed a 1.4 per cent reduction in output from November, 1926 levels; and a 14.2 per cent reduction from the five-year (1922-1926) average output for that month. Flour stocks in millers' hands on December 1st were below the average reported at the close of November in recent years.

FLOUR MILLING
Twelfth District

	Nov., 1927	Oct., 1927	Nov., 1926	Five-Year Average Nov., 1922-1926
Output (bbls.)...	475,168	554,407	481,818	553,759
Stocks* Flour (bbls.)...	368,580	410,905	424,312	474,646
Wheat (bu.)...	3,673,847	3,188,882	3,075,616	4,028,382

*At end of month.

Distribution and Trade

Available evidence indicates that activity in distribution and trade was maintained at relatively higher levels during the last half of 1927 than was industrial production. Despite a decline in output, goods have been passing into consumers' hands at approximately the same rate as a year ago.

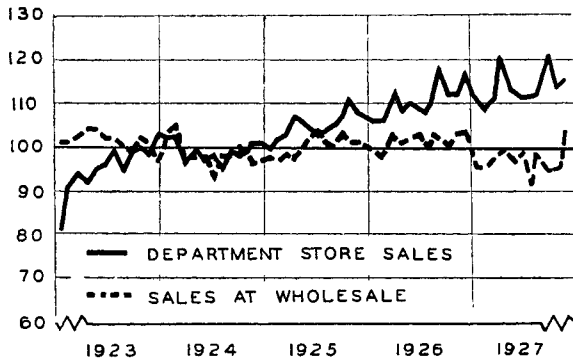
If allowance be made for usual seasonal fluctuations, value of sales, both at retail and at wholesale, increased during November as compared with October and was greater than in November, 1926. Freight carloadings were smaller in number during November, 1927, than one

month ago or one year ago. District carloadings data are not yet available for a sufficiently long period of time, however, to permit of accurate conclusions being drawn from their month-to-month movements. Their comparability over longer periods is also affected by the increasing

in October, 1927, and 112 in November, 1927 (1923-1925 daily average=100). November sales of all reporting retail stores in the district (including department, apparel, dry goods, and furniture stores) approximated those of October, 1927, and were 3.1 per cent larger than in November, 1926.

Value of sales at wholesale declined less than seasonally during November, and approximated the figures of a year ago. This ban seasonally adjusted index of wholesale trade (based on reported value of sales in eleven lines of business) advanced from 96 in October, 1926, to 104 in November, 1927, the figure for the latter month being the same as that for November, 1926. Index numbers of separate lines of wholesale trade appear below:

INDEX NUMBER



TRADE ACTIVITY—TWELFTH DISTRICT

Seasonally adjusted index numbers of sales of 28 department stores and about 170 wholesale firms, (1923-1925 average = 100). Latest figures, November, department stores, 116; wholesale firms, 104.

WHOLESALE TRADE—Twelfth District

	No. of Firms	Index Numbers of Sales		
		Nov.	Oct.	Sept.
Agricultural Implements	15	91	116	127
Automobile Supplies	13	102	103	100
Automobile Tires	13	141	134	148
Drugs	4	112	129	118
Dry Goods	19	87	96	119
Electrical Supplies	8	137	131	122
Furniture	13	107	117	112
Groceries	18	105	90	95
Hardware	19	90	97	101
Shoes	6	126	129	150
Paper and Stationery	20	99	104	122
All Lines	148	101	104	110
All Lines, Adjusted†	148	104	96	95

*1923-1925 monthly average=100. †For seasonal variation.

efficiency of railroad operations, reflected in more rapid movement of freight, heavier loading of cars, and the use of larger freight cars.

Retail sales of 42 department stores increased 3.8 per cent during November, 1927, as compared with November, 1926, while a similar

Prices

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics' wholesale price index of 550 commodities stood at 96.7 (1926 monthly average price 100) for November, practically the same figure as that recorded for October (97.0).

Prices for cattle, hogs, lambs, and sheep pursued individual and non-uniform trends during November. Cattle prices at Chicago, on a whole, were higher during November than during October although in the week ending November 26th average prices dropped rather sharply from the high levels of the preceding

NET SALES* STOCKS*

	Nov., 1927, compared with		January 1 to Nov. 30, 1927, compared with same period in 1926		Nov., 1927, compared with	
	Nov., 1926		Oct., 1927		Nov., 1926	
	Nov., 1926	Oct., 1927	Nov., 1926	Oct., 1927	Nov., 1926	Nov., 1926
Department Stores	3.8 (42)	1.4 (42)	2.8 (34)	—0.5 (37)	—0.5 (37)	—0.5 (37)
Dry Goods	16.2 (5)	7.3 (5)	11.4 (4)	3.5 (3)	3.5 (3)	3.5 (3)
Furniture	1.2 (45)	—6.6 (45)	3.8 (26)	1.8 (22)	1.8 (22)	1.8 (22)
Men's Apparel	—7.1 (4)	—27.7 (4)	...	...	...	...
Men's and Women's Apparel	12.1 (11)	—0.6 (11)	1.8 (11)	—0.2 (3)	—0.2 (3)	—0.2 (3)
Women's Apparel	—1.5 (11)	—2.5 (11)	1.3 (11)	—2.6 (10)	—2.6 (10)	—2.6 (10)
All Reporting Stores	3.1 (117)	—0.1 (117)	2.9 (87)	0.0 (77)	0.0 (77)	0.0 (77)

*Percentage increase or decrease (—). Figures in parentheses indicate number of stores reporting.

comparison of value of stocks on hand shows a decline of 0.5 per cent over the year period. This bank's index of value of sales of 28 department stores, which is adjusted for normal seasonal changes and for variation in the number of trading days, stood at 116 in November, 1927, 113

(D) DEPARTMENT STORE SALES—Index Numbers (1923-1925 daily average=100)

	Los Angeles (5)†	Oakland (4)†	San Francisco (5)†	Salt Lake City (5)†	Seattle (5)†	Spokane (3)†	District (28)†
Without Seasonal Adjustment							
Nov., 1927	131	122	128	106	115	103	124
Oct., 1927	113	134	118	118	111	126	117
Sept., 1927	124	108	109	103	117	112	116
Nov., 1926	125	115	120	111	111	107	119
With Seasonal Adjustment							
Nov., 1927	127	120	111	97	107	94	116
Oct., 1927	115	113	117	105	105	99	113
Sept., 1927	139	115	105	102	110	103	120
Nov., 1926	121	113	107	102	104	98	112

†Figures in parentheses indicate number of stores. One store included in district figures not included in cities shown above.

(E) Bank Debits* —

	Nov., 1927	Nov., 1926	First Eleven Months 1927	
Berkeley	\$ 23,237	\$ 19,510	\$ 237,937	\$ 211,147
Boise	16,238	13,422	152,763	147,833
Fresno	55,166	50,850	449,581	433,763
Long Beach	43,595	41,816	526,760	540,147
Los Angeles	959,827	831,027	10,162,734	9,527,833
Oakland	223,368	142,335	2,422,441	1,833,763
Ogden	25,281	20,769	203,738	222,147
Pasadena	37,321	34,767	438,717	403,763
Phoenix	32,258	28,126	299,308	280,763
Portland	189,656	190,052	1,874,764	2,003,763
Reno	9,203	8,733	103,412	100,763
Sacramento	48,346	30,081	426,762	353,763
Salt Lake City	75,477	68,557	766,063	771,763
San Diego	62,460	60,699	674,914	703,763
San Francisco	1,324,391	935,605	13,553,109	11,497,763
San Jose	27,174	30,347	289,973	293,763
Seattle	223,036	200,085	2,374,367	2,333,763
Spokane	58,116	52,099	610,789	613,763
Stockton	27,076	27,733	308,256	293,763
Tacoma	42,949	42,110	492,986	500,763
Yakima	17,479	15,043	143,838	147,763
District	\$3,521,654	\$2,843,766	\$36,513,212	\$33,227,763

*000 omitted.

week. Following an abrupt decline late in October, quotations for hogs moved downward throughout November, and averaged 15 per cent lower for that month than for October. The price of lambs was steady throughout the month and practically unchanged from October quotations. Sheep prices advanced early in November and held the advance during the last two weeks of the month.

LIVESTOCK PRICES AT CHICAGO

	Cents per pound			Percentage changes* from	
	Nov., 1927	Oct., 1927	Nov., 1926	One Month Ago	One Year Ago
Cattle	14.00	13.45	9.83	4.1	42.4
Hogs	9.03	10.66	11.91	-15.3	-24.2
Lambs	13.78	13.81	12.94	-0.2	6.5
Sheep	5.90	5.71	5.96	3.3	-1.0

* (—) decrease.

Improvement in wheat prices was noted during the latter part of November and the first few days of December. During the week ending December 10th, however, prices turned downward and continued to decline during the following week. Prices of December contract wheat at Chicago ranged from \$1.27 to \$1.28 per bushel on December 20th. Quotations for this contract ranged from \$1.26½ to \$1.27⅝ on November 19, 1927, and from \$1.38⅜ to \$1.39½ per bushel on December 20, 1926.

The general level of cotton prices has declined during the past thirty days. On December 20th spot middling uplands cotton at New Orleans sold for 19.33 cents per pound as compared with 19.58 cents on November 19, 1927. In December, 1926, spot middling uplands cotton at New Orleans was selling at about 12 cents per pound.

Wool prices have shown a slight upward trend during the past seven months. The weekly average of 98 quotations at Boston advanced from 63.34 cents per pound on May 27th to 68.27 cents per pound for the week ending December 16th. Average prices for certain weeks this year and for the corresponding weeks of last year are shown in the following table:

WOOL PRICES—Averages of 98 Quotations at Boston
(Cents per pound)

Week Ending	Oct. 28	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25	Dec. 2	Dec. 9	Dec. 16
1927...	67.53	67.78	67.78	67.78	68.12	68.29	68.29	68.27
1926...	67.71	67.59	67.51	67.40	67.40	67.15	65.16	65.26

Source: Dun's Review.

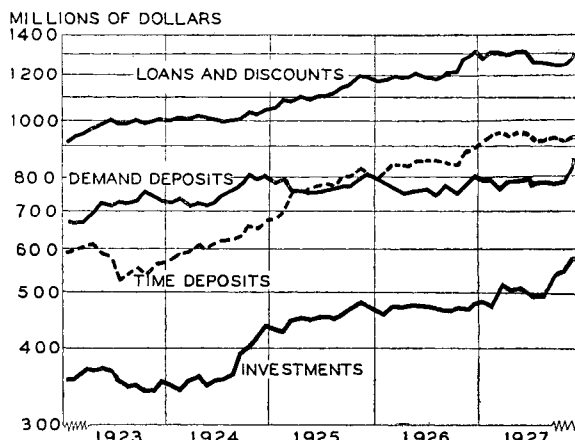
Prices, f.o.b. California shipping points, for dried apples, apricots, peaches, and pears, have advanced moderately during recent weeks. Certain types of raisins, as well as some sizes of prunes are now quoted higher than they were last month. Walnut and almond markets continue strong with prices unchanged.

With the exception of zinc, average prices for non-ferrous metals were higher during November than during October. Lead and zinc prices were lower than in November, 1926, while copper and silver prices have advanced over the year period.

The softwood lumber index of "The Lumber Manufacturer and Dealer" declined during November and stood at 26.99 for the fortnight ending December 3rd. A month earlier the index was 31.70, and a year ago it stood at 29.80.

Banking and Credit

Demand for commercial credit at reporting member banks decreased during early November, with the passing of the peak of the district's agricultural marketing season. Some contraction in demand for credit also accompanied declines in industrial activity during the month. During the latter part of November and the first weeks of December, however, the volume of commercial loans increased as activity in sea-



MEMBER BANK CREDIT—TWELFTH DISTRICT
Figures for about 65 member banks in leading cities, as of last Wednesday of each month. Latest figures, December 14th.

(F) Commodity Prices—

Commodity	Unit	Dec. 2, 1927	One Month Ago	One Year Ago
Wholesale Prices (U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics—1926 prices=100).		....	97.0	98.4
Purchasing Power of Farm Products (U. S. Dept. of Agriculture)*		....	91.8	80.7
Wool.....Average of 98 quotations at Boston.....	lb.	68.29¢	67.78¢	67.15¢
Wheat.....Chicago contract price for May wheat.....	bu.	\$1.34¼-1.35	\$1.30⅝-1.31¼	\$1.39¼-1.41¼
Apples.....Winesaps, Extra Fancy, f. o. b. Pacific Northwest.....	box	2.40-2.50	2.25	1.30-1.35
Oranges.....Navels, Fancy, wholesale at San Francisco.....	box	6.50-7.00	Not quoted	4.25-5.75
Prunes.....Size 40/50 in 25-lb. boxes, f. o. b. California.....	lb.	.06-.06½	.06-.06½	.06¼-.07¼
Raisins.....Seedless, bulk, in 25-lb. boxes, f. o. b. California.....	lb.	.06	.05¾	.07½
Canned Peaches.....Choice Cling, sliced, 2½s, f. o. b. California.....	doz.	1.75-1.85	1.75-1.85	2.00-2.10
Butter.....92 score at San Francisco.....	lb.	.49	.49	.46
Copper.....Electrolytic, monthly average at New York.....	lb.	13.319¢	12.958¢	13.576¢
Lead.....Monthly average at New York.....	lb.	6.259¢	6.250¢	8.005¢
Silver.....Monthly average at New York.....	oz.	57.474¢	56.035¢	54.141¢
Lumber (Softwood).....Weekly Index, United States†.....		26.99	31.70	29.80

*Ratio of farm prices (August, 1909-July, 1914 prices=100) to wholesale prices of non-agricultural commodities (1910-1914 prices=100). †As published by "The Lumber Manufacturer and Dealer."

