



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

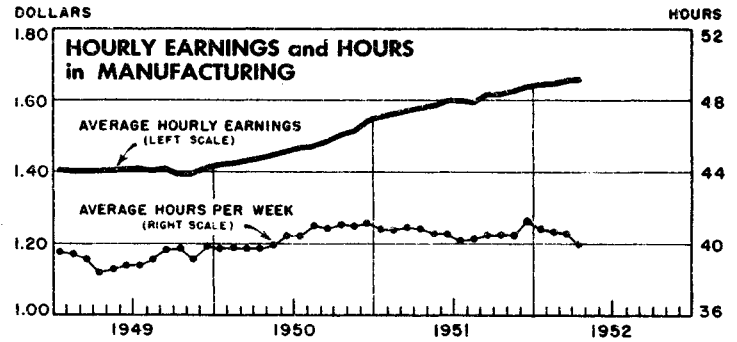
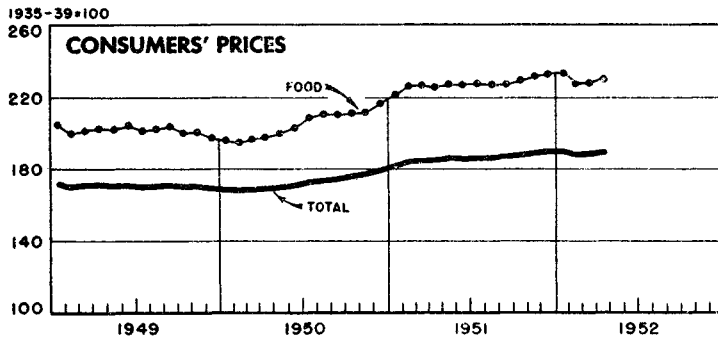
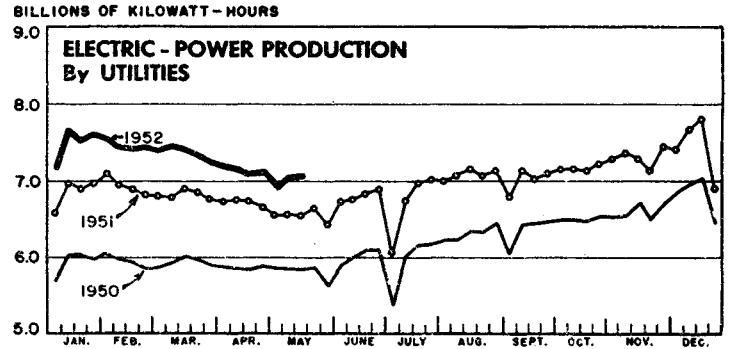
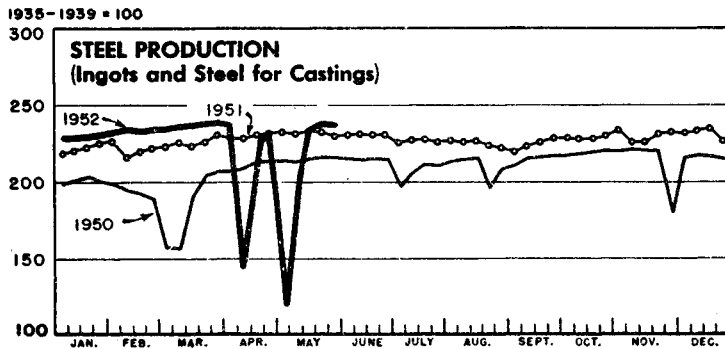


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

Available only with subscription to the monthly magazine SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

MAY 30 1952

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1951		1952				
	May 19	May 26	Apr. 26	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24
Commodity prices, wholesale (revised series):							
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	*115.9	.....	**111.9	.....	111.5	111.6	112.0
Farm products.....do.....	*115.7	.....	**108.7	.....	107.9	108.3	110.6
Foods, processed.....do.....	*112.3	.....	**108.0	.....	108.3	108.7	108.7
All other.....do.....	*116.8	.....	**113.4	.....	112.9	112.9	113.0
28 commodities 2/.....August 1939=100..	367.1	362.4	293.2	294.0	296.7	295.9	297.7
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.452	.452	.400	.385	.387	.384	.387
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/.....dol. per bu..	2.37	2.34	2.49	2.48	2.48	2.42	2.45
Department store sales (revised series).....1947-49=100..	99	100	105	111	117	99	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	975	947	1,161	1,146	.....	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	957	929	1,133	1,118	.....	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	27,307	27,281	28,367	28,489	28,544	28,524	28,511
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	23,913	23,411	23,973	23,632	24,067	23,764	23,794
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	19,072	18,606	19,875	19,940	20,034	19,953	20,127
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	766	291	792	796	970	865	941
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	26,106	25,305	28,325	28,271	28,224	26,121	.....
New York City.....do.....	9,741	9,284	11,804	11,671	11,813	10,425	11,913
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	49,350	49,865	52,153	52,303	51,887	51,955	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	69,582	69,493	73,076	73,333	73,168	73,230	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	30,425	30,382	31,216	31,456	31,389	31,397	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	19,233	19,129	20,872	20,796	20,723	20,707	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	171	191	168	150	161	154	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.09	3.10	3.16	3.16	3.16	3.15	3.16
Stock prices, 416 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	172.4	169.0	181.9	179.8	183.6	183.0	183.9
Industrials, 365 stocks.....do.....	187.4	183.6	197.4	194.6	199.0	198.4	199.4
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,606	1,623	1,625	1,429	1,338	1,392	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	6,559	6,653	7,135	6,949	7,039	7,085	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	146,292	150,748	124,832	118,326	120,190	119,939	118,438
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,094	6,081	6,277	6,203	.....	.....	.....
Steel 4/.....1935-39=100..	232.7	232.0	233.8	121.2	198.9	235.5	238.9
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	809	812	779	745	720	754	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	397	396	376	366	357	373	.....

^{1/} Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ^{2/} Thursday prices. ^{3/} Daily averages. ^{4/} Week ending May 31, 1952. * Monthly index for May 1951. ** Monthly index for April 1952.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	March	April	January	February	March	April
BUSINESS POPULATION						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	732	693	671	619	715	780
Commercial service.....do....	69	52	50	52	55	58
Construction.....do.....	83	81	68	70	72	93
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	115	119	143	135	148	171
Retail trade.....do.....	377	365	348	304	371	375
Wholesale trade.....do.....	88	75	62	60	69	83
Liabilities, total.....thous. of dol..	17,652	17,064	26,208	19,474	29,232	29,530
Commercial service.....do....	1,375	1,055	4,249	1,649	4,563	1,744
Construction.....do.....	3,292	2,268	2,672	1,935	2,485	3,853
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	5,169	5,894	8,365	5,614	13,046	12,633
Retail trade.....do.....	5,605	5,647	7,761	6,548	6,905	7,050
Wholesale trade.....do.....	2,211	2,200	3,161	3,728	2,233	4,250
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumers' price index, all items.....1935-39=100..	184.5	184.6	189.1	187.9	183.0	1/188.7
Apparel.....do.....	203.1	203.6	204.6	206.3	203.5	202.7
Food.....do.....	226.2	225.7	232.4	227.5	227.6	230.0
Cereals and bakery products.....do....	187.5	188.3	190.6	190.9	191.2	191.1
Dairy products.....do.....	204.6	204.1	215.8	217.0	215.7	212.6
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	217.1	214.8	211.4	223.5	232.1	247.2
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	272.2	272.6	272.1	271.1	267.7	266.7
Fuels, electricity, and refrigeration.....do....	144.2	144.0	145.0	145.3	145.3	145.3
Gas and electricity.....do.....	97.2	96.9	97.6	97.9	97.9	98.0
Other fuels.....do.....	205.0	205.0	206.8	206.7	206.8	206.1
Housefurnishings.....do.....	210.7	211.8	209.1	208.6	207.6	206.2
Rent.....do.....	134.7	135.1	139.7	140.2	140.5	140.8
Miscellaneous.....do.....	164.3	164.6	169.6	170.2	170.7	171.1
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Contract awards:						
37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	48,376	49,496	31,842	33,767	45,041	50,097
Total valuation.....thous. of dol..	1,267,450	1,374,991	902,091	885,206	1,321,254	1,597,517
Building, total.....do.....	1,043,823	1,108,649	695,397	697,842	1,055,993	1,243,870
Engineering construction (E.N.R.): 2/.....do....	1,406,456	1,043,434	1,196,796	783,429	1,042,851	1,180,340
Construction cost indexes:						
Associated General Contractors (all types).....1913=100..	376	376	380	378	378	379
Engineering News-Record: 3/						
Building.....do.....	r400.1	401.1	406.1	407.2	r407.9	410.4
Construction.....do.....	r540.0	542.9	549.3	550.6	551.1	557.1
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Money orders, domestic, issued (50 cities):						
Number.....thousands..	5,536	7,183	7,258	6,948	8,025	7,255
Value.....thous. of dol..	124,277	128,681	130,038	124,086	147,902	132,616
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES						
Hours and earnings:						
Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing..hours..	41.1	41.0	40.8	40.7	40.6	40.0
Durable-goods industries.....do....	41.9	42.0	41.8	41.7	41.6	41.1
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	40.0	39.7	r39.5	r39.4	r39.3	p38.5
Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing.....dollars..	64.57	64.70	r66.91	r66.57	r67.19	p66.24
Durable-goods industries.....do....	69.30	69.68	r72.15	r72.18	r72.55	p71.84
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	58.40	58.16	r60.04	r59.97	r60.09	p58.71
Average hourly earnings, all manufacturing.....do....	1.571	1.578	r1.640	r1.644	r1.655	p1.656
Durable-goods industries.....do....	1.654	1.659	r1.726	r1.731	r1.744	p1.748
Ordinance and accessories.....do....	1.687	1.662	r1.740	r1.760	r1.779	p1.770
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	1.369	1.424	r1.422	r1.451	r1.467	p1.493
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	1.387	1.386	r1.442	1.451	r1.469	p1.463
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	1.540	1.546	r1.585	r1.593	r1.603	p1.607
Primary metal industries.....do....	1.797	1.798	r1.852	r1.841	r1.848	p1.841
Fabricated metal products (except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment).....dollars..	1.652	1.655	r1.700	r1.708	r1.715	p1.721
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	1.745	1.749	1.818	r1.828	r1.841	p1.836
Electrical machinery.....do....	1.582	1.588	r1.676	r1.682	1.695	p1.699
Transportation equipment.....do....	1.838	1.829	r1.915	r1.912	r1.934	p1.947
Instruments and related products.....do....	1.599	1.613	r1.687	r1.695	r1.709	p1.700
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.....do....	1.402	1.405	1.462	r1.477	r1.482	p1.483
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	1.460	1.465	1.520	1.522	r1.529	p1.525
Food and kindred products.....do....	1.442	1.448	r1.524	r1.531	r1.544	p1.546
Tobacco manufactures.....do.....	1.142	1.157	r1.186	r1.179	1.199	p1.191
Textile-mill products.....do.....	1.317	1.325	r1.347	1.348	r1.347	p1.337
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1.264	1.232	r1.289	r1.293	r1.283	p1.239
Paper and allied products.....do....	1.514	1.519	r1.562	r1.567	r1.580	p1.577
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....do....	1.947	1.948	r2.002	r2.019	r2.038	p2.033
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	1.612	1.623	r1.660	r1.660	r1.673	p1.681
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	1.944	1.974	r2.021	r2.012	r2.015	p2.011
Rubber products.....do.....	1.647	1.649	r1.814	r1.811	r1.809	p1.794
Leather and leather products.....do....	1.269	1.278	r1.290	r1.300	r1.305	p1.310

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Index on old basis for April is 189.6. 2/ Data for March 1951 and January 1952 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 3/ Data reported at the beginning of each month are shown here for the previous month.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS — Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	March	April	January	February	March	April
FOREIGN TRADE						
Exports, including reexports, total $\frac{1}{2}$.....ml. of dol..	1,285	1,370	r1,250	r1,330	1,416	.....
Exports of U. S. merchandise, total $\frac{1}{2}$.....do.....	1,266	1,353	r1,238	r1,317	1,403	.....
By economic classes:						
Crude materials.....thous. of dol..	173,226	228,512	r255,350	228,045	188,112	.....
Crude foodstuffs.....do.....	123,998	163,562	r128,136	r129,265	175,216	.....
Manufactured foodstuffs and beverages.....do.....	75,166	82,412	r60,406	74,126	63,892	.....
Seminufactures.....do.....	131,429	134,549	r137,168	138,742	159,901	.....
Finished manufactures.....do.....	762,295	743,804	r656,815	r746,658	815,686	.....
By principal commodities:						
Agricultural products, total.....do.....	332,396	419,984	r377,024	r377,502	370,668	.....
Cotton, unmanufactured.....do.....	83,756	117,761	148,921	132,039	94,236	.....
Grains and preparations.....do.....	190,715	177,297	r130,235	r145,609	181,897	.....
Nonagricultural products, total.....do.....	933,716	r932,854	r860,850	r939,333	1,032,138	.....
Automobiles, parts, and accessories $\frac{1}{2}$.....do.....	107,816	110,488	r77,987	100,542	109,743	.....
Chemicals and related products $\frac{1}{2}$.....do.....	79,012	82,929	r76,163	78,617	80,104	.....
Iron and steel-mill products.....do.....	55,384	48,125	62,962	63,080	78,910	.....
Machinery $\frac{1}{2}$.....do.....	223,846	227,414	r213,309	r240,606	262,594	.....
Petroleum and products.....do.....	56,260	58,584	r65,049	64,207	71,264	.....
Toxiles and manufactures.....do.....	85,530	79,036	r56,162	59,888	69,462	.....
General imports, total.....do.....	r1,101,500	r1,033,000	921,638	892,100	962,500	.....
Imports for consumption, total.....do.....	r1,035,090	r966,008	r914,896	r901,031	971,630	.....
By economic classes:						
Crude materials.....do.....	r309,535	337,649	269,233	269,834	300,122	.....
Crude foodstuffs.....do.....	r233,935	r159,590	193,779	207,047	193,305	.....
Manufactured foodstuffs and beverages.....do.....	r93,116	89,546	r79,333	r75,511	92,714	.....
Seminufactures.....do.....	r228,530	r216,041	r205,092	186,323	216,172	.....
Finished manufactures.....do.....	169,974	r163,183	167,459	r162,316	169,317	.....
By principal commodities:						
Agricultural products, total.....do.....	r538,978	r479,068	r437,299	439,207	434,935	.....
Coffee.....do.....	153,040	96,645	134,047	153,943	138,108	.....
Rubber, crude, including guayule.....do.....	74,347	73,232	80,393	73,821	80,730	.....
Sugar.....do.....	40,626	39,717	25,987	29,394	43,382	.....
Wool and mohair, unmanufactured.....do.....	r64,933	105,037	37,906	33,648	33,850	.....
Nonagricultural products, total.....do.....	r496,112	r486,940	r477,597	r461,823	536,696	.....
Nonferrous ores, metals, and manufactures.....do.....	r77,015	69,182	65,594	75,677	132,573	.....
Paper base stocks.....do.....	31,209	29,240	33,447	31,727	29,326	.....
Newsprint.....do.....	44,057	39,356	42,230	43,246	44,960	.....
Petroleum and products.....do.....	50,601	r51,428	r60,456	53,717	55,321	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Grains:						
Receipts, principal markets:						
Barley.....thous. of bu..	8,801	9,703	9,710	9,481	7,787	7,194
Corn.....do.....	33,010	25,664	44,823	32,248	27,248	18,316
Oats.....do.....	5,605	8,263	6,420	5,826	6,805	6,602
Rye.....do.....	787	1,510	741	636	864	480
Wheat.....do.....	28,407	48,928	26,284	29,072	24,341	22,191
Meats, production, total.....ml. of lb..	1,537	1,479	1,977	1,715	1,656	1,557
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	576,081	537,799	656,307	593,420	557,237	556,992
Lamb and mutton.....do.....	36,529	32,603	50,536	48,986	48,201	45,703
Pork, including lard.....do.....	924,237	908,712	1,269,791	1,072,252	1,050,706	944,623
Lard.....do.....	175,502	173,137	248,037	220,934	213,346	191,803
Sugar, U. S., deliveries and supply (raw value):						
Production.....short tons.....	40,570	34,751	84,442	32,439	24,680	.....
Entries from off-shore.....do.....	564,059	567,747	364,959	293,390	692,525	596,991
Hawaii and Puerto Rico.....do.....	164,129	171,703	72,083	40,217	221,145	180,047
Deliveries, total.....do.....	534,673	r532,911	581,376	r544,553	r662,480	642,125
For domestic consumption.....do.....	529,584	524,305	578,699	r542,900	r660,405	639,682
Stocks, raw and refined, end of mo.....thous. of short tons..	1,724	1,818	1,613	1,473	1,241	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	7,372	7,235	7,527	7,229	8,022	6,616
Stocks, end of month, total.....do.....	17,335	15,072	35,927	29,207	21,451	19,592
At furnaces.....do.....	14,919	13,258	30,369	24,693	18,082	16,487
On Lake Erie docks.....do.....	2,417	1,813	5,558	4,514	3,369	3,105
Castings, gray iron:						
Shipments, total.....thous. of short tons..	1,440	1,363	1,199	1,155	1,172	.....
For sale.....do.....	818	767	694	655	661	.....
Orders, unfilled, for sale, end of month.....do.....	2,390	2,337	1,801	1,766	1,711	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	270,091	279,561	202,799	193,061	196,896	.....
Shipments, total.....do.....	r102,173	97,921	87,003	82,898	80,960	.....
For sale.....do.....	r60,771	58,199	54,988	50,129	49,084	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	6,016	5,888	6,040	5,785	6,300	5,225
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	r182,765	181,908	183,738	r174,626	173,694	.....
For sale, total.....do.....	134,184	129,059	139,488	r133,602	131,997	.....
Railway specialties.....do.....	43,320	40,818	36,650	31,317	32,118	.....
Lead, refined (primary refineries):						
Production.....do.....	50,701	44,362	43,746	44,133	48,943	39,329
Shipments (domestic).....do.....	50,927	42,033	40,390	41,291	39,161	38,225
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	27,259	29,437	28,578	31,297	41,040	41,820

$\frac{1}{2}$ Revised. $\frac{1}{2}$ See note on corresponding item in the May 1952 Survey.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	March	April	January	February	March	April
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued						
Boilers, radiators and convectors, cast iron:						
Boilers (round and square):						
Shipments.....thous. of lb..	19,456	12,898	11,318	10,211	9,161	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	57,400	67,150	73,039	77,267	81,800	.....
Radiation:						
Shipments.....thous. of sq. ft..	4,658	3,550	2,784	2,226	2,074	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	3,717	4,842	8,382	8,702	8,893	.....
Oil burners:						
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....number..	56,894	53,729	40,256	36,789	39,163	.....
Shipments.....do....	55,421	46,877	45,748	37,792	40,038	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	69,485	75,071	77,518	80,775	81,408	.....
Machine tools:						
New orders.....1945-47=100..	590.3	516.1	347.8	318.8	r324.3	p294.4
Shipments.....do....	158.9	157.7	266.6	279.6	r299.5	p309.7
PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS						
Crude petroleum:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	187,624	183,800	192,712	184,654	196,028	.....
Consumption (runs to stills).....do....	200,535	185,488	205,829	193,524	205,825	.....
Stocks, end of month:						
Gasoline-bearing in U. S.....do....	233,824	243,160	254,007	255,900	259,126	.....
Refined petroleum products:						
Fuel oil:						
Production:						
Distillate fuel oil.....do....	41,129	35,139	45,141	44,314	43,402	.....
Residual fuel oil.....do....	41,771	36,908	41,483	38,352	39,482	.....
Stocks, end of month:						
Distillate fuel oil.....do....	42,978	44,736	1/66,969	55,369	48,750	.....
Residual fuel oil.....do....	37,516	36,910	1/39,523	38,295	37,971	.....
Lubricating oils:						
Production.....do....	5,138	5,175	4,963	4,456	4,921	.....
Stocks, refinery, end of month.....do....	8,209	8,393	9,856	10,049	10,169	.....
Motor fuel:						
Production, total.....do....	93,378	87,319	98,551	93,134	99,093	.....
Gasoline and naphtha from crude petroleum.....do....	82,140	76,826	87,446	r82,052	87,096	.....
Natural gasoline and allied products.....do....	17,780	16,708	19,058	18,070	18,724	.....
Stocks, gasoline, end of month:						
Finished gasoline.....do....	133,465	130,501	136,161	143,910	152,556	.....
Unfinished gasoline.....do....	7,991	8,687	8,178	8,002	8,133	.....
Natural gasoline.....do....	8,109	8,522	7,896	8,585	9,527	.....
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: 2/						
Consumption.....bales..	903,041	985,227	922,559	768,889	736,535	847,444
Manufactures, spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	22,246	21,134	21,360	21,126	21,159	20,910
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	20,957	19,903	20,102	19,854	19,885	19,613
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....mil. of hr..	11,083	12,447	11,399	9,265	9,040	10,607
Average per working day.....do....	554	505	465	471	452	424
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	10,436	11,699	10,686	8,696	8,478	9,948
Operations as percent of capacity.....	150	136	126	127	122	115

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the May 1952 Survey. 2/ Data for April 1951 and January and April 1952 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks; number of active spindles are for end of period covered.

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Permit No. 1009

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS