## SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT <br> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

WASHINGTON, D. C., AUGUST 3, 1939

## SUMMARY OF BUSINESS TRENDS

0UTSTANDING among recent business developments has been the rise in steel-mill operations. Ingot production at the current rate of 60 percent of capacity is up 7 points from the June average. The trade reviews report that current operations are, to an important extent, based on active shipments to the construction industry and miscellaneous outlets. However, as the automobile industry is expected to enlarge its requirements substantially this month there has been some advance production of ingots to meet these demands. While the contraseasonal rise in steel output has been the major factor in raising the seasonally corrected rate of industrial activity above the June level, other-industries have operated at better-than-seasonal rates. Automobile production, however, declined from 324,000 units in June to about 195,000 cars and trucks for July as a result of the earlier than usual changeover to new models. Weekly data thus far available for July indicate that freight carloadings and output of electric power and bituminous coal were above the seasonally adjusted rates in June.

Retail trade volumes have experienced the usual summer letup but are well ahead of last year. Retailers have enlarged their commitments for the fall trade and purchasing policies are gen-
erally less hesitant than those which prevailed during a considerable part of the second quarter. Forward purchases of copper reached an exceptionally large total in July and other raw materials have been purchased more freely. Raw materials prices on the average have changed but little in recent months. Moody's index of 15 important commodities at the end of July was lower than a year ago.

Corporation profits in the second quarter were sharply higher than in the comparable period of 1938 according to the reports now available. For a representative group of industrial concerns, aggregate earnings were almost three-fourths larger than in the second quarter of 1938. Earnings of these industrial corporations averaged somewhat lower on a seasonally adjusted basis than in the first quarter of this year. A group of 14 steel companies showed net returns of $\$ 11,000,000$ as compared with a deficit of $\$ 9,000,000$ in the second quarter of last year. Wide gains over a year ago were reported by leading automobile companies and a variety of other manufacturing concerns. Profits of petroleum companies increased over the first quarter but were smaller than a year ago when earnings of these companies had been relatively well sustained.

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS


WEEKLY BUSINESS INDICATORS
[Weekly average, 1923-25=100]

| ITEM | 1939 |  |  |  |  | 1938 |  | 1937 |  | ITEM | 1939 |  |  |  |  | 1938 |  | 1937 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | July | July | July | July | July | ${ }^{\text {July }}$ | ${ }_{23}{ }^{\text {July }}$ | ${ }^{\text {July }}$ | July |  | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { July } \\ 29 \end{array}\right\|$ | July | ${ }^{\text {July }}$ | $\frac{\mathrm{July}}{8}$ | July | July | ${ }_{23}$ | July | ${ }^{\text {July }}$ |
| Business activity:I |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | FHance-Oontinued. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Now York ${ }^{\text {Barron'sor }}$ |  | ${ }_{93}^{90.3}$ | ${ }_{92} 91.4$ | 85.8 <br> 898 | ${ }^{90.8}$ | 81.7 |  | 110.8 | 108.0 | Debit | 85.8 | 91.1 | 89.0 | 106.9 | 94.2 | . 5 | 4 | 90.7 | 100.5 |
| Business Week. |  | 100.2 | 99.4 | 100.7 | 101.5 | 84.0 | 82.8 | 120.8 | 121.2 | Federal Reserve reporting |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Commodity prices, wholesale: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Loans, total. | 65.6 | 64.9 | 65.1 | 65.1 | 64.7 | 65. | 65.7 | 78. | 77.8 |
| Dept. of Labor, $1926=100$ : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Interest rates: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Combined index (813) |  | 75.2 | 75.5 | 75.6 | 75.5 | 78.6 | 78.7 | 87.5 | 87.5 | Call loanst. | ${ }^{24.2}$ | ${ }^{24.2}$ | ${ }_{28}^{24.2}$ | 24.2 | 24.3 | 24.2 | 24.2 | 24.2 | 24.2 |
| Farm products (67) |  | ${ }^{672}{ }^{2}$ | ${ }^{63} .3$ | 64.1 | ${ }^{62} .9$ | ${ }_{74}^{68.6}$ | ${ }^{69} 3$ |  | 888.4 | Currency in circulation | 144.6 | 144.7 |  |  |  | 132. 5 | ${ }^{2826} 6$ | 28.6 | 28. 6 |
| Food (122) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ - ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  | ${ }_{80.4}^{67.5}$ | 67.6 80.4 | ${ }_{80}^{68.1}$ | 67.4 <br> 80.5 | 74. ${ }^{\text {81. }} 8$ | 74.3 81.6 | 86.2 | 86.0 86.3 | Production: ${ }^{\text {Cur }}$ in circulation | 144.6 | 14.7 | 145,3 | 146.1 |  | 132.5 |  | 132.7 | 132.8 |
| Fisher's index, 1920) 100 : |  |  |  | 80.3 |  |  |  |  |  | Automobiles. | 63.2 | 62.2 | 80.8 |  | 92.6 |  |  |  | 115.4 |
| Combined index (120). | 78.6 | 78.5 | 78.7 | 79.2 | 78.8 | 81.6 | 81.5 | 92.3 | 92.3 | Bituminous coalt |  | 69.9 | 69.9 | 70.1 | 65.9 | 57.7 | 57.0 | 76.5 | 72.2 |
| Copper, electrolytic | 72.5 | 72.5 | 71.7 | 71.0 | 71.0 | 70.3 | 68.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 | Cotton consumption |  |  | 121.7 | 91.9 | 116.2 | 110.2 | 112. 1 | 127.7 | 131.3 |
| Cotton, middling, spot. | 35.3 | 34.6 | 36.0 | 36.8 | 35.7 | 32.0 | 32.4 | 41.2 | 43.4 | Electric power |  | 137.9 | 139.5 | 124.7 | 138.1 | 125.7 | 125. | 135. 4 | 135. 6 |
| Construction contractst. |  |  | 70.9 |  |  |  |  | 89.6 |  | ${ }_{\text {Petroleum }}$ |  | 172. ${ }^{54}$ | 47.2 | 35.3 <br> 169 |  | 50.8 | 44.2 | 66. 7 | ${ }^{61} 8$ |
| Distribution: Carloadings. |  | 68.5 | 70.3 | 58.3 | 69.4 | 61.4 | 60.6 | 81.3 | 80.0 | Steel ingots $\oplus$ - | 104. 1 | 96.8 | 85.4 | 66.1 | 83.3 | 62.8 |  |  | 171.7 |
| Employment: Detroit, facto |  |  | 71.0 |  | 86.7 | 47.8 |  | 83.5 |  | Receipts, primary markets: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finance: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Cattle and calves. |  | 70.7 | 70.7 | 50.4 | 60.7 | 72.1 | 73.9 | 78. | 62.3 |
| Failures, commercial. | 55.8 | 49.1 | 52.1 | 39. 8 | 57.2 | 56.3 | ${ }^{52.8}$ |  | 38.3 | Hogs. |  | 39.0 | 40.6 | 31.5 | 36.2 | 37. 5 | 34.2 | 22.4 | 24.2 |
| Bond yieldsf. |  | ${ }^{83.3}$ | ${ }^{63.6}$ | 84.3 |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{677.1}$ |  | 438.8 | 48.0 |  | 228.8 | ${ }^{321.2}$ | 34.6 | 26.5 | 36. 2 | 22.7 |
| stock pricest. | 105. 6 | 105. 1 | 100.3 | 88.3 | 97.4 | 103.4 | 103.9 | 136.8 | 137.2 | Wheat | 148.6 | 296.8 |  | 327.9 |  | 235.3 |  | 312.2 | 323.8 |

## WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS •

| ITEM | 1039 |  |  |  |  |  | 1938 |  | 1937 |  | $\frac{1036}{\text { Aug. } 1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | July 29 | July 22 | July 15 | July 8 | July 1 | June 24 | July 30 | July 23 | July 31 | July 24 |  |
| COMMODITY PRICES, WHOLESALE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Copper, electrolytic, New Yorkł.-...----.-dol. per lb.- | 0.100 | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.097 | 0.095 | 0.138 | 0.138 | 0.095 |
|  | . 0109 | . 0904 | ${ }^{2} 1098$ | ${ }^{100}$ | . 097 | . 100 | . 087 | . 088 | . 112 | . 118 | . 129 |
|  | ${ }^{23} 8.85$ | 25.14 36. | 2.16 35.85 | 2.17 35.81 | 35. 72 | 25. ${ }^{2} 18$ | 2.47 36.43 | 2.46 36.30 | 2.88 40.27 | 2.88 40.11 | 2. 77 |
| Wheat, No. 2 hard winter (Kansas City).-dol. per bu-- | . 62 | . 65 | . 65 | . 69 | 3.70 | . 69 | ${ }^{26} 68$ | ${ }^{36} .70$ | 1.17 | 1.22 | 1. 17 |
| Banking: FINANCE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3,296 | 2,745 | 2,872 | 3,406 | 3,392 | 3,425 | 2,871 | 3,431 | 3,536 | 3,529 | 3,099 |
| Debits, outside New York City ( 140 cities) .-...-do...- | 3,977 | 4,224 | 4,127 | 4,129 | 4,366 | 4,438 | 3,503 | 4,096 | 4,207 | 4,660 | 3,846 |
| Reserve bank credit, total. $\qquad$ do do-..- <br> U. Government securities <br> do | $\begin{array}{r}2,512 \\ 2,488 \\ \hline 1085\end{array}$ | 2,537 2,515 | 2,569 <br> 2,535 <br> 18 | $\begin{array}{r}2,569 \\ \mathbf{2} 551 \\ \hline 151\end{array}$ | 2,567 | 2, 584 | 2,583 | 2, 585 | 2,560 | 2,564 | 2,461 |
| Member bank reserve balances................-do. | 10,436 | 10,412 | 10,350 | 10,151 | 10, 116 | 10,099 | 8,188 | 8,202 | 6,776 | 6,858 | 6,018 |
| Excess reserves, estimated...--.-..-....--do | 4,485 | 4,485 | 4,447 | 4, 202 | 4,243 | 4,227 | 3,036 | 3,039 | ${ }^{813}$ | -874 | 3,049 |
| Federal Reserve reporting member banks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits, time ....................................d. do. | 5, 237 | 5,223 | - 5,224 | 17,229 | 17,220 | 5,238 | 5,200 | 15,208 | 15,033 5,268 | 35,218 | 14,850 |
|  | 13,941 | 13,909 | 13,892 | 13,858 | 13,862 | 13, 851 | 12,395 | 12,410 | 12, 499 | 12,473 | 14,084 |
| U. S. Government direct obligations-----do-.... obligations fully guaranteed by U. 8, Govern- | 8,514 | 8,505 | 8,493 | 8,485 | 8,423 | 8,404 | 7,659 | 7,606 | 8,283 | 8,240 | 8,456 |
| ment........-.......................-mil. of dol.. | 2,168 | 2,159 | 2,153 | 2,150 | 2,148 | 2,127 | 1,640 | 1,622 | 1,188 | 1,195 | 1,272 |
|  | 8, 194 | 8,116 | 8,131 | 8,142 | 8,089 | 8,072 | 8,161 | 8,208 | 9,784 | 9, 740 | 8,294 |
| Commercial, industrial, and agricutural loansg mill of dol. | 3,899 | 3,893 | 3,887 | 3,872 | 3,833 | 3.823 | 3,869 | 3,878 | 4,425 | 4,428 |  |
| Interest rates, call loanst.- .-................percent.- | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1. 00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Interest rates, time loanst............---...-...-do...- | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 |
|  | 2.049 | 2. 649 | 2649 | 2. 649 | 2.649 | 2. 649 | 2. 762 | 2761 | Exchange rates: |  |  |
|  | 4.681 | 4.682 | 4.682 | 4.681 | 4.681 | 4.681 | 4.920 | 4.920 | 4.977 | 4.787 | S. ${ }^{\text {B, }} \mathbf{0 1 7}$ |
|  | 227 | 200 | 212 | 162 | ${ }^{233}$ | 284 | 229 | 215 | 164 | 158 | 181 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 27,350 | 36,710 | 27,860 | 17,840 | 28,970 | 27,040 | 40,000 | 50,230 | 32,870 | 38,380 | 68, 550 |
| Bond yields (Moody's) (120 bonds) $\ddagger$ - | 3.63 | 3.65 | 3.67 | 3.71 | 3.71 | 3.71 | 4.11 | 4.15 | 3.87 | 3.87 | 3.88 |
|  | 944 | 1,256 | 3,317 | 1,442 | 3,125 | 2,412 | 7,061 | 10,819 | 4,117 | 5,501 | 9.286 |
| Stock prices ( $N$. Y. Timer) | 102.59 | 102.06 | 97.38 | 95.42 | 94.63 | 97.22 | 100.37 | 100.89 | 13285 | 133.27 | 133.67 |
| Stock prices (Standard Statistics) (420) .-.-. 1926-100 | 88.9 | 88.8 | 85.7 | 83.3 | 82.8 | 85.7 | 88.9 | 90.7 | 120.3 | 120.7 | 113.3 |
| ${ }_{\text {Industrials ( } 350)}^{\text {Publie utilities ( } 40}$ | 104.9 | 104.1 | 100.0 | 97.3 | 96.7 | 100.2 | 106.9 | 108.6 | 142.2 | 143.0 | 128.9 |
|  | 8.4 | 86.1 26.8 | 85.3 25.4 | 82.9 24.7 | 81.9 | 84.4 | 75.5 | 77.8 | 99.8 | 97.8 | 109.3 |
| PRODUCTION, CONSTEUCTION, AND |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Production: <br> Automobiles? $\qquad$ nurnber-- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 40,595 | 47,420 | 61,610 | 42,784 | 70,663 | 81,070 | 31,890 | 34, 570 | 86,403 | 88,055 | 97, 755 |
| Bituminous coalt...------......-thous. of short tons-- |  | 1,191 |  | 1,194 | 1,123 | 1,083 | 983 | 970 | 1,302 | 1,229 | 1,242 |
|  |  | 2,295 | 2,324 | 2,078 | 2,300 | 2,285 | 2,094 | 2,085 | 2,256 | 2,259 | 2,079 |
|  |  | 3, 584 | 3,530 | 3,530 | 3,463 | 3,453 | 3,316 | 3,349 | 3, 692 | 3,876 | 2.948 |
| Stecl ingots@ --..-.-.---.....-. pet. of capacity | 60.6 | 56.4 | 49.7 | 38.5 | 54.3 | 55.0 | 37.0 | 36.4 | 84.3 | 82.5 | 71.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Freight-car loadings, total...............---.......cars.- |  | 656, 341 | 673, 812 | 359, 109 | 665, 528 | 642,987 | 588, 703 | 680, 818 | 779,091 | 767,470 | 747, 529 |
|  |  | 117, 535 | 116, 813 | -45, 232 | 114,738 | 106, 813 | 104, 152 | 47, $4 \times 12$ | 128,823 | 119, 228 | 133,513 |
| Forest products.....-.....................-.-. ${ }^{\text {do }}$ |  | 32, 521 | 31, 426 | 22, 030 | 32,988 | 30, 552 | 27, 875 | 26,764 | 42, 523 | 41, 744 | 35, 725 |
| Grains and grain product |  | 46,632 | 59,265 | 53, 456 | 51,484 | 46, 992 | 50,711 | 53, 341 | 51,255 | 51, 239 | 50,964 |
| Livestock |  | 11, 524 | 11,845 | 9,422 | 10,415 | 10,272 | 10,828 | 11, 201 | 11, 269 | 9,382 | 15,423 |
| Merchandise, i. c |  | 152, 109 | 150,488 | 127,662 | 153,461 | 151,850 | 147,924 | 146. 219 | 166,975 | 165, 811 | 163, 958 |
| Ore-.ina..... |  | 42, 617 | 44,877 | 36, 423 | 44, 102 | 41, 117 | 23, 082 | 22, 105 | 73.679 | 77,487 | 53, 558 |
| Receipts: |  | 253,403 | 259,098 | 214,884 | 258,340 | 255, 031 | 224, 131 | 223, 726 | 304, 564 | 302, 579 | 294,388 |
|  |  |  | 223 | 159 | 192 | 182 | 228 |  | 248 | 197 | 318 |
|  |  | 253 | 253 | 205 | 235 | 228 | 243 | 222 | 145 | 157 | 278 |
|  |  | 117 |  | 75 | 81 | 88 |  |  | 94 |  | 70 |
| Wheat, at primary markets........-..thous. of bu..\| | 11,819 | 23,610 | 32,976 | 26,084 | 18,332 | 13.313 | 18.717 | 22,691 | 24, 839 | 25,760 | 13,991 |

8No longer strictly comparable; for an explanation, see the corresponding data on p. 30 of the April 1939 issue of the Survey. 1 Source: Wards' Automotive Reports.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

| Monthly statistios through December 1937, together with explanatory notes and references to the sources of the data. may be found in the 1988 Supplement to the Survey | 1939 | 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1939 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | June | June | July | August | September | October | Novem- ber | $\begin{gathered} \text { Decem- } \\ \text { ber } \end{gathered}$ | Jenuary | Febru: ary | March | April | May |
| COMMODITY PRICES <br> Page 15 <br> Purchasing power of the dollar: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wholesale prices_.............. 1923-25=100_ | 132.3 | 128.6 | 127.8 | 128.9 | 128. 6 | 129.8 | 129.9 | 130.8 | 130.9 | 130.9 | 131.3 | 132.1 | 132, 1 |
| Retail food prices | 131.1 | 124.7 | 125.0 | 127.6 | 127.1 | 128.0 | 128.5 | 127.2 | 129.0 | 130.2 | 130.9 | 130.5 | 130.7 |
| Prices fecelved by farmers...............-. do | 165.3 120.0 | 159.7 117.2 | 154.8 117.5 | 159.7 118.3 | 154.8 118.3 | 154.8 118.5 | 156.5 118.8 | 118.5 | 156.5 119.0 | 159.7 119.5 | 1161.6 | 165.3 119.6 | 163.4 119.9 |
| DOMESTIC TRADE Pages 26,27 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Advertising: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lineage, total ( 52 cities) $\qquad$ thous. of lines.- | 105,086 | 98, 519 | 83, 653 | 86, 102 | 103, 869 | 113, 658 | 113,457 | 118,096 | 87,418 | 86,651 | 111,815 | 111, 160 | 112,377 |
|  | 21, 785 | 21,331 | 20, 301 | 20, 803 | 21, 376 | 22, 411 | 20, 233 | 20,372 | 19,556 | 18,318 | 22, 147 | 22.824 | 22, 692 |
| Display, total.--------..-------- do-- | 83, 301 | 77,188 | 63, 352 | 65, 293 | 82, 493 | 91, 147 | 93, 314 | 97, 723 | 67,861 | 68, 333 | 89,668 | 88,335 | 89, 685 |
|  | 5,345 | 4,340 | 3,031 | 2,623 | 2,366 | 4,932 | 6,608 | 3,581 | 2,448 | 3,458 | 4,768 | 6, 055 | 6,075 |
|  | 1,663 | 1,556 | 1,889 | 1, 201 | 1,209 | 1,732 | 1,449 | 1,574 | 2,301 | 1,403 | 1,695 | 2, 105 | 1,615 |
| General -----------------------10.- | 17,408 | 16, 253 | 13,028 | 12,175 | 15,888 | 18, 411 | 18,749 | 14,028 | 12,771 | 14,024 | 17,414 | 17,655 | 18,538 |
|  | 58,886 | 55,039 | 45, 424 | 49,295 | 63,031 | 66, 073 | 66,509 | 78,540 | 50,343 | 49,448 | 65, 792 | 62,520 | 63,458 |
| Postal business: <br> Money orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic, issued ( 50 cities): thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number--.................tiothousands.:- | 4, 170 $\mathbf{3 8 , 1 6 5}$ | 3,956 $\mathbf{3 7 , 4 5 0}$ | 3,780 35,862 | 3,842 37,238 | 3,775 36,651 | 4,170 39,485 | 4,067 37,996 | $\begin{array}{r}\text { 4, } \\ 42,254 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 4,234 39,227 | 4,140 36,900 | 4,662 41,891 | 4, 171 38,119 | 4,248 39,229 |
| Domestic, paid ( 50 cities):---- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 101, 345 | 13,366 100,250 | 11,975 92,785 | 98,006 | 12,846 | 13,989 107,93 | 106,097 | 113, 841 | 12,839 94,176 | $\stackrel{12,371}{88,734}$ | 109, 1580 | -13, ${ }_{8}^{13,164}$ | 13,724 99,757 |
| Retail trade: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New passenger automobile sales: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.9 78.5 | 65.0 50.5 | 61.4 56.5 | 49.2 54.5 | 37.1 60.0 | 65.1 85.0 | 99.1 100.0 | 92.5 | 70.8 91.0 | 71.2 96.0 | 106.9 88.5 | 106.4 79.5 | $\begin{array}{r}\text { F107. } \\ \hline 79.0\end{array}$ |
| Chain-store sales: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grocery chain-store sales. | 102.9 | 93.6 | 89.2 | 88.5 | 93.0 | 94.9 | 96.7 | 101.1 | 93.5 | 98.7 | 100.5 | 102.0 | 102.9 |
|  | 101.4 | 92.2 | 91.0 | 92.2 | 94.9 | 94.4 | 96.7 | 98.1 | 96.4 | 98.2 | 98.5 | 99.0 | 101.4 |
| EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS AND WAGES Page 39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Labor conditions:' <br> Labor turn-over in mfo. establishments: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Labor turn-over Accession rate_-mo. Iates per 100 employees | 3.92 | 3.44 | 4.81 | 5.29 | 4.51 | 5. 19 | 4.24 | 3.22 | 4.09 | 3.06 | 3.34 | 2.95 | 3.29 |
| Separation rate: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total_-...-- | 3.31 | 4.41 | 3.81 | 3.08 | 3. 56 | 3.30 | 3.14 | 3.88 | 3. 19 | 2.61 | 3.18 | 3. 46 | 3. 48 |
| Lay-oft. | 2.46 | 3.69 | 3. 13 | 2.33 | $\stackrel{.62}{ }$ | 2.40 | 2.44 | 3.21 | 2.24 | 1.87 | 2.23 | 2. 60 | 2. 67 |
| Quit... | . 73 | . 61 | . 59 | . 65 | . 82 | . 78 | . 60 | . 58 | . 85 | . 64 | . 82 | .76 | . 68 |
| FINANCE <br> Pages 56, 60, 73, 77 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Banking: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| U. S. Postal Savings: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance to credit of depositors_-mil: of dol | 1,262 | 1,252 | 1,252 | 1,252 | 1,248 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,252 | 1,259 | 1,263 | 1.266 | 1,264 | 1,261 |
| Balance on deposit in banks.-.----do.... | 64 | -115 | 101 | 99 | 98 | 96 | 87 | 86 | r 83 | r 81 | r 80 | -76 | 73 |
| Life insurance (Ass'n of Life Insurance Presidents): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Insurance written: O $_{\text {Policies and cerificates, }}$ total number |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Policies and certifcates, total number thousands. |  |  | 720 |  |  |  |  | 1,089 |  |  | 842 | 716 | 812 |
|  | 134 | 30 | 12 | 18 | 10 | 24 | 34 | 71 | 30 | 23 | 33 | 20 | 33 |
| Industrial | 461 | 580 | 511 | 518 | 582 | 598 | ${ }_{6}^{608}$ | 755 | 357 | 399 | 499 | 464 | 496 |
|  | 245 | 174 | 197 | 176 | 161 | 200 | 223 | 264 | 282 | 252 | 310 | 232 | 283 |
| Value, total...-.-.-...-.-...-thous. of dol.- | 729, 749 | 597,773 | 528, 452 | 550,880 | 519, 932 | 692,432 | 671, 262 | 974, 920 | 729, 937 | 570, 491 | 645,019 | -550,666 | -604,445 |
| Group-r---1---------------------10..- | 194, 223 | 45, 076 | 18, 659 | 33,443 | 24,924 | 32, 288 | 43,754 | 91, 294 | 51, 899 | 40,365 | 45, 205 | 35, 981 | 43,278 |
|  | 128, 568 | 170, 312 | 153, 392 | 1561304 | 173, 641 | 179, 593 | 182, 690 | 226,085 | 99, 363 | 109, 871 | 138, 396 |  | 137,073 |
| Security markets: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Standard Statistics Co., Inc. ( 60 bonds) dol. Der $\$ 100$ bond | 81.4 | 75.3 |  | 81.3 | 78.7 |  | 82.1 | 81.1 | 81.9 | 82.1 | 83.1 | 79.4 | 80.2 |
| Industrial (20 bonds)....-.........do | 86.2 | 80.0 | 85.0 | 85.7 | 84.2 | 86.8 | 86.9 | 86.0 | 86.2 | 86.4 | 87.1 | 83.8 | 84.8 |
|  | 101.6 | 94.0 | 97.3 | 98.1 | 96.3 | 98.6 | 99.3 | 98.7 | 99.7 | 100.7 | 101.3 | 99.7 | 101.0 |
|  | 56.2 | 52.0 | 60.2 | 60.0 | 55.7 | 59.9 | 60.2 | 58.6 | 59.7 | 59.0 | 60.9 | 54.5 | 54.8 |
| Ralls (20 bonds)Stock prices: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Combined index ( 420 stociss) . $1928=100$. | 86.0 | 73.1 | 88.0 | 89.5 | 86.0 | 91.1 | 94.7 | 92.0 | 91.8 | 90.1 | 91.7 | 81.9 | 83.1 |
| Industrials (348 stocks) ..........do...- | 100.5 | 86.4 | 105.3 | 108.0 | 103.9 | 109.8 | 113.6 | 110.6 | 109.3 | 106.3 | 108.0 | 95.9 | 97.0 |
| Public utilities (40 stocks) .-.-...-. do.... | 84.7 | 69.2 | 76.5 | 75.0 | 72.2 | 77.4 | 80.9 | 77.9 | 81.2 | 83.8 | 85.8 | 80.0 | 82.4 |
| Rails (32 stocks) ...---.........-.-. do...-- | 25.9 | 20.5 | 27.3 | 27.8 | 25.5 | 28.1 | 30.0 | 23.8 | 29.8 | 28.0 | 29.7 | 24.8 | 25.0 |
| CHEMICALS AND PagLIED RRODUCTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vegetable oils and products: <br> Oleomargarine: <br> Consumption (tar.pald withdrawals) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Consumption (tax-pald withdrawals) thous. of lb | 20,745 | 27,890 | 25, 671 | 28,371 | 32,000 | 31,824 | 29,812 | 29,991 | 30,350 | 27,774 | 28, 032 | 23,622 | 22, 827 |
| Price, wholesale, standard, uncolored (Chicago) $\qquad$ dol. per lb |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 150 | 143 | . 140 | . 140 | . 140 | . 140 | . 135 |
|  | 21,111 | 28, 146 | 25,512 | 28,718 | 32,387 | 31,092 | 30,221 | 30, 373 | 30,319 | 27,701 | 29,417 | 23,325 | 22,699 |
| ELECTRIC POWER <br> Page 99 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Production, total§...---...--....mil. of $\mathrm{kw} .-\mathrm{hr} .$. | 10,523 | 9, 271 | 9,596 | 10,246 | 9,898 | 10,270 | 10,303 | 10,882 | 10,641 | 9,654 | 10,567 | 9,955 | - 10,341 |
| By source: <br> Fuel. do |  |  | 5, 88s |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| utilities $\qquad$ owned public | 9,820 | 8,657 | 8,063 | 9, 688 | 0,238 | 9,615 | 9,660 | 10,205 |  | 9,043 | 9,900 | 9.321 | 9,686 |
| Other producers..........................d. do...-- | , 703 | 8604 | ${ }_{6} 63$ | 0, 861 | 2, 660 | . 655 | , 643 | 10, 677 | 9,976 | 611 | 9,687 | 634 | ${ }^{1} 655$ |

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS-Continued

| Monthly statistics through December 1937, together with explanatory notes and references to the sources of the data, may be found in the 1988 Supplement to the Survey | 1939 | 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1939 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | June | Juns | July | August | $\begin{gathered} \text { Septem- } \\ \text { ber } \end{gathered}$ | October | $\begin{gathered} \text { Novem- } \\ \text { ber } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Decem- } \\ & \text { ber } \end{aligned}$ | January | February | March | April | May |
| METALS AND MANUFACTURES Pages 131, 132, 134, 136 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pig fron and iron manufactures: Castings, malleable: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orders, new.......---.-.......-short tons-- | 29, 042 | 18,143 | 16, 905 | 25,752 | 29,061 | 32,770 | 36,643 | 35,663 | 38, 105 | 33, 234 | 35,997 | 29, 183 | 27,702 |
|  | 30,781 37.0 | 18,077 | 16,630 | 25,799 | 29,460 34.8 | 29,870 36.4 | 35,351 | 38,802 | 35, 372 | 34,786 | 39,615 | 31,640 38.8 | 30,840 |
| Shipments...-.....-.....------short tons.- | 32,566 | 21,673 | 17,500 | 21,102 | 26, 941 | 28, 717 | 35, 563 | 36, 434 | 36, 403 | 34,688 | 39,807 | 33,666 | 32,657 |
| Boilers, range, galvanized:Orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New....-.-----.....number ot boilers.. | 58, 277 | 65,002 | 50,377 | 57,721 | 68,337 | 108, 427 | 70,862 | 47, 882 | 61,003 | 50,876 | 57, 928 | 69,772 | 68, 191 |
| Unflled, end of month, total...-.-.do.. | 16, 245 | 16, 163 | 14, 279 | 15, 414 | 18,016 | 46, 882 | 37, 170 | 20, 626 | 15,026 | 12,604 | 10, 145 | 19,442 | 20,638 |
|  | 62, 996 | ${ }^{64} 185$ | ${ }^{51,900}$ | 56, 595 | 65, 622 | 77, 563 | 83, 816 | 70, 232 | ${ }^{64,094}$ | 56, 476 | 60,421 | 53,454 | 67,610 |
|  | 63,370 31,472 | 62,028 31,254 | 52,251 30,903 | 56,586 30,912 | 65, 735 30,799 | 79, 661 28,677 | 80,674 31,819 | 64,426 37,625 | 66,603 35,317 | 53, $\mathbf{3 8 , 4 9 5}$ | 㐌30,387 | -60,475 | 66,995 32,057 |
| Steel, manufactured products:Barrels and drums, steel, heavy type: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orders, unfilled, end of month....- | 233, 378 | 448.176 | 629, 448 | 778, 775 | 445, 310 | 374, 454 | 248, 376 | 519, 375 830,979 | 438,748 749,070 | 421, 037 | 709, 251 | 277, 719 | 257, ${ }^{\text {814, } 298}$ |
| Percent of capacity........................... | 52.3 | 43.3 | 39.1 | 77.6 | 488.7 | - 52.3 | 48.0 | ${ }^{830,7}$ | ${ }^{149} 47.5$ | 552,189 35.0 | 709, 44.4 | 800, 29.1 | 814,298 |
| Shipments -...-..-..............number-- | 822, 658 | 685,453 | 622, 155 | 771,283 | 759, 188 | 865, 572 | 799, 678 | 822, 746 | 746, 510 | 556, 069 | 710,228 | 799, 404 | 812,843 |
| Stocks, end of month.-.----...------do---- | 42,587 | 34, 089 | . 41,287 | 35,756 | 60, 160 | 36, 241 | 24, 603 | 32,690 | 34, 717 | 30,586 | 29, 610 | 30,498 | 31,867 |
| Area thous. of sq. ft <br> Quantity $\qquad$ $\qquad$ number | 1,032 | 547 | 691 | 783 | 679 | 717 | 635 | 892 | 1,131 | 817 | 617 | 765 | 877 |
|  | 1,098 | 888 | 894 | 1,063 | 1,124 | 1,125 | 947 | 1,012 | 1,264 | 892 | 660 | 834 | 883 |
| metals): <br> Consumption and shipments, total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Consumption and shipments, total thous, of lb.. Consumed in own plants_-............ | 1,749 | 1, 225 | 1,305 468 | $\begin{array}{r}1,538 \\ \hline 108\end{array}$ | 1,474 | 1,366 | 1,596 | 1,606 648 | 1,725 | 1,460 | 1,783 | 1,380 138 | 1,602 |
|  | 1,137 | 881 | 837 | 1,030 | 1,021 | 857 | 989 | 988 | 1,080 | 1, 101 | 1,252 | 1,042 | 1,177 |
| PAPER AND PRINTING |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Per: Page 146 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Consumption by publishers....short tons.- | 170,980 | 159, 189 | 151,875 | 151, 324 | 162, 457 | 187,450 | 176, 322 | 177,134 | 160,916 | 153,346 | 174,096 | 179,542 | 178,543 |
|  | 230,448 | 324, 098 | 316, 635 | 314, 586 | 303,067 | 288,408 | 291, 477 | 284,661 | 267, 155 |  |  |  |  |
| In transit to publishers----..------do..-- | 47,737 | 24, 624 | 26, 262 | 34,696 | 32,653 | 47,570 | 44,628 | 30,677 | 36, 872 | 13,449 | 32,580 | 37, 253 | 39,251 |
| STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pages 150, 152 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Portland cement: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Production.-----.-----...-...thous. of bbl.- | 11,053 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 566.5 | 49.8 | 50.2 | 15.50 | 49.9 | 56.9 | 48.2 | 36.9 | 24.3 | 27.9 | 37.4 | 45.7 | \$0.9 |
|  | 12,715 | 10,943 | 10, 164 | 11, 838 | 11,716 | 12,357 | 8,573 | 6,281 |  | 5, | 8, 8 , 467 | -9,654 | 12,688 |
| Stocks, finished, end of month-...-...-.do..- | 21,489 5.809 | -22,467 | 23,286 6,089 | 22,534 5 5,902 | - | 20,569 4,927 | 22,179 4,963 | 23,954 | - $\begin{array}{r}23,611 \\ 5,563\end{array}$ | 24,092 | 23,786 | 23,837 | 22, 275 |
| Glass containers: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Production-..-...-.-.....---thous. of gross.- | 4.662 | 3,583 | 3,506 | 4,031 | 3,653 | 3,866 | 3,709 | 3,515 |  | 3,389 | 4,129 |  |  |
| Percent of capacity | 72.0 | 60.0 | 61.0 | 65.0 | 63.6 | 64.7 | 64.6 | 58.8 | 55.8 | 55.7 | 61.4 | 65.4 | 69.7 |
| Shipments.-...-.-.........-thous. of gross.- | 4,618 | 3,858 | 3,847 | 4,178 | 3,971 | 3,954 | 3,491 | 3,042 | 3,473 | 3,323 | 3,933 | 3,978 | 4,485 |
| Plate glass, polished, production thous. of sq. ft.- | 8,209 | 8,750 | 8,354 | 8, 149 | 7,641 | 7,493 | 7,643 | 8,029 | 8,179 | 8,192 | 8,318 | 8,336 | 8,293 |
|  | 9, 289 | 5,956 | 5, 506 | 7,676 | 8,873 | 12,869 | 12,883 | 12,691 | 12,209 | 10,165 | 11,807 | 7, 268 | 8,036 |
| TEXTILE PRODUCTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wool: $\ddagger$ <br> Pages 157, 158 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Consumption (scoured basis): <br> Apparel class. $\qquad$ thous. of lb. | 23, 772 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 21, 110 | 19, 567 |  |
| Carpet class. $\qquad$ do...- | 6, 291 | 3,313 | 4,996 | 6,025 | 6,386 | 8, 660 | 7,716 | 0, 501 | 9,784 | 8,776 | 0,856 | 8,159 | 5, 0 , 245 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Woolen and worsted: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Broad.----...-thous, of active hours.- |  | 1,009 | 1,174 | 1,499 | 1,339 | 1,335 | 1, 528 | 1,759 | 1,924 | 1,042 | 1,680 | 1,338 | 1,573 |
| Narrow-........--...............-do.--- | 73 | 54 | 58 | 80 | 77 | 86 | -89 | 81 | 79 | 78 | 75 |  | 69 |
|  | 178 | 95 | 106 | 143 | 164 | 167 | 171 | 177 | 186 | 209 | 213 | 198 | 175 |
| Spinning spindles: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 82, 819 | 48, 5134 |  |  | 62, 852 |  |  | 73, 278 | 73,780 88 | 83, 2226 | 77, 747 | 67, 613 |  |
|  | 82, 8198 | 55, 101 | 5, 119 | 69,644 145 | 62,851 | 70,205 | $\begin{array}{r}85,954 \\ \hline 146\end{array}$ | 97,019 |  | 82, 132 | $\begin{array}{r}77,747 \\ \hline 124\end{array}$ | 67,613 | 79, 117 |
| Btocks, scoured basis, end of quarter, total thous. of Ib . | 122,915 | 139, 260 |  |  | 147, 597 |  |  | 115,655 |  |  | -94, 606 |  |  |
| Woolen wools, total....-.-...-........do..-- | 39, 421 | 46, 609 |  |  | 48, 276 |  |  | 46, 686 |  |  | -39, 019 |  |  |
|  | 31,191 | 37,830 |  |  | 40, 224 |  |  | 37,065 |  |  | - 29, 458 |  |  |
|  | 8, 230 | 8,679 |  |  | 8, 052 |  |  | ${ }^{9} 8,621$ |  |  | r 9,561 $+55,487$ |  |  |
|  | 83,494 | 92, 751 |  |  | -88, 321 |  |  | ${ }^{68,969}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 63,366 20 | 13,231 |  |  |  |  |  | -52, 16.45 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 20,366 | 13,231 |  |  | 14,038 |  |  | 16,452 |  |  | ,22,035 |  |  |

'Revised. $\dagger$ Revised series. Stocks of newsprint, at publishers, and in transit to publishers, revised for 1937 and 1938. Revisions not shown on p. 52 of the Aprll 1939 Survey will appear in a subseguent issue of the Survey. 1938 , and January and April 1939 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

Note. -The data in the above tables present, in adrance of the monthly Survey of Current Bus ness, such items as were received during the week ended Saturday, July 29 . These figures, like similar information in the table entitled "Monthly business statistics" in each monthly issue, should always be resd in connection with the detailed tables covering the respective items in the 1938 Supplement to the Surbey of Current Business, which contains a description of each series and a reference to the source of the data. Series marked with an asterisk (*) are exceptions, represinting additions since the 1038 Supplement was issued, cind similar data, if published, will be found in the monthly numbers indicated by the footnotes. Changes in the series are also indicated in the footnotes. The Surzey of Current Business, including 12 monthly Surveys of 56 pages each,
and the 52 Weekly Supplements, may be obtained from the Buperintendent of Documents, Washington, D. O., for $\$ 2.00$ per year. The 1938 Supplement may be obtained and the 52 Weekly Supplements, may be o
from the same source upon receipt of $\$ 0.40$.

