

G.17.2

May 8, 1950

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

MARCH 1950

Instalment accounts outstanding at retail furniture stores showed little change during March, as is customary during that period of the year. At the month-end, instalment indebtedness on these retailers' books remained well above that on the corresponding date last year. Instalment accounts outstanding at household appliance stores on March 31 increased slightly following two months of little change. Over the year-period, such accounts receivable increased by more than two-fifths.

Collections on both furniture and household appliance store instalment accounts rose slightly in March and, when related to first-of-month accounts receivable, gave collection ratios one point higher than those for February. At both kinds of outlet the rate of collection in March was considerably slower than for the corresponding month last year.

Indexes of Instalment Accounts Outstanding at End of Month
December 31, 1939 = 100

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FURNITURE:												
1948	104	103	104	108	112	116	117	122	128	128	130	140
1949	131	128	126	127	131	134	136	141	146	153	160	174
1950	168	166	168									
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1948	90	90	94	103	112	118	124	131	138	139	138	142
1949	134	129	128	129	134	140	148	153	160	167	170	183
1950	180	180	184									

Instalment Collection Ratios
Instalment collections during month as percentage of accounts out-
standing at beginning of month

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FURNITURE:												
1948	11	14	15	15	15	16	14	14	14	14	14	14
1949	12	12	14	13	13	12	12	12	11	11	11	10
1950	10	10	11									
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1948	19	17	18	17	18	17	17	17	16	16	15	15
1949	15	14	15	14	14	14	13	14	12	12	12	12
1950	12	11	12									

NOTE.— Figures for March 1950 are preliminary and subject to revision.