## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

For release in evening papers Wednesday, March 11

March 9, 1936 R&S rtp - 135

## DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN FEBRUARY 1936 Preliminary report

Department store sales continued in February at about the same level as in January and, when allowance is made for seasonal changes, in about the same dollar volume as last summer and autumn. The Board's seasonally adjusted index in February was 80 percent of the 1923-1925 average compared with 79 percent in January.

The value of sales in February was 13 percent larger than in the corresponding month last year, reflecting in part the fact that there was one more trading day this year than in February 1935. All Federal Reserve districts showed increases over a year ago.

## REPORTS BY FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICTS

	,	Percentage change from a year ago		Number of
	February*	January 1 to February 29	stores report- ing	cities in- cluded
Total	+13	+9	519	254
Federal Reserve districts:				
Boston New York Philadelphia Cleveland	+14 +12 +13 +22	+11 +10 +9 +7	55 49 33 35	33 25 14 14
Richmond Atlanta Chicago St. Louis	+12 +19 +11 +11	+11 +12 +7 +8	57 29 65 34	26 17 30 20
Minneapolis Kansas City Dallas San Francisco	+5 +7 +18 +13	+5 +9 +15 +10	40 20 19 83	21 14 9 31

<sup>\*</sup> February figures preliminary; in most cities the month had one more business day this year than last year, and in February this year there were five Saturdays as compared with four a year ago.