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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE STOCKS
 (Based on retail dollar amounts)

DECEMBER 1955

The value of department store stocks increased further in December after allowance for the usual seasonal change. The adjusted index is estimated at 135 per cent of the 1947-49 average, compared with 131 for November. Stocks at the end of 1955 were 8 per cent greater than a year earlier.

Federal Reserve District	Index Numbers (average end-of-month stocks 1947-49=100)						Percentage change December 1955 from	
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted			Month ago	Year ago
	1955		1954	1955		1954		
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.		
Boston	126	123	119	117	144	111	-19	+ 6
New York	121	119	r115	110	136	r105	-19	+ 5
Philadelphia	131	r128	121	115	r147	107	-22	+ 8
Cleveland	124	119	117	110	135	104	-18	+ 5
Richmond	p158	154	144	p132	167	120	-21	+ 9
Atlanta	p156	159	144	p137	180	127	-24	+ 8
Chicago	127	123	r121	115	142	r109	-19	+ 6
St. Louis	133	130	118	120	147	106	-19	+13
Minneapolis	134	128	119	120	142	107	-16	+12
Kansas City	145	142	r131	131	157	117	-17	+11
Dallas	p157	149	139	p142	165	r125	-14	+13
San Francisco	p142	137	r129	p119	151	108	-21	+10
United States	p135	131	r125	p119	148	110	-19	+ 8

p--Preliminary.

r--Revised.

Note:--Indexes are based on value of stocks at end of month. For description and monthly indexes for the period January 1919 to October 1951 see Federal Reserve Bulletin for December 1951, pp. 1463-1515. Indexes for the most recent thirteen-month period are shown regularly in the Bulletin. Percentage changes are based on unadjusted indexes.