

MONTHLY REVIEW

OF AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

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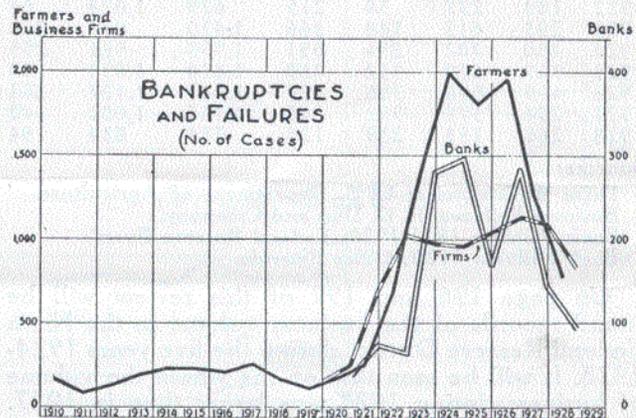
DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BUSINESS

The year 1929 began with the volume of business in this district larger than a year ago. During the first two weeks of January, debits to individual accounts at seventeen cities were 11 per cent larger than in the corresponding weeks of 1928. In the first thirteen business days of January, country check clearings were 9 per cent larger than in the corresponding days a year ago. From the first report in a new series issued by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, it is learned that the daily average of building contracts awarded in the first eighteen days of January 1929 in the northwestern district was \$333,900, as compared with a daily average of building contracts in this district during the whole month of January 1928 of only \$119,300.

During December 1928, business in this district was more active than in December 1927. Debits to individual accounts at seventeen cities were 12 per cent larger in December than in the same month last year. Country check clearings were 19 per cent larger in December than in December last year. The largest increases occurred in debits to individual accounts at mixed farming cities and country check clearings in rural Minnesota, both showing increases of 30 per cent over December 1927. Part of the increase over December a year ago was doubtless due to more favorable weather conditions prevailing in December 1928. Carloadings of grains and grain products, livestock, forest products and miscellaneous freight, building permits and contracts, country lumber sales, furniture sales, life insurance sales and postal receipts were larger in December than in the same month last year, while carloadings of coal, coke and ore, flour shipments, department store sales, security sales and wholesale trade were smaller. There were only fifty-six business failures in December 1928, as compared with one hundred and eighteen failures in December 1927.

Farm income from cash crops and hogs was 2 per cent smaller in December than in December last year. The income from dairy products during November was 8 per cent larger than the income from this source in November a year ago. December prices of flax, hens and all meat animals, except butcher steers, were higher than a year ago. Prices of wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, butter, milk, eggs, potatoes and prime butcher steers were lower than a year ago.

The most convincing evidence that readjustment from post-war conditions is progressing is furnished by the records of decreasing bankruptcies and failures. Failures have decreased for two years. The number of farmers, business firms and banks that failed in 1928 was smaller than in any other year since 1922. The greatest improvement occurred among banks and farmers, and a somewhat smaller reduction in failures occurred among business firms. The accompanying chart shows the history of failures during the whole period for which records are available. It should be noted that some further improvement must occur before the number of failures returns to the level existing in 1920 and preceding years.



Business Failures and Bank Failures in the Ninth Federal Reserve District During Recent Calendar Years. Farmer Bankruptcies in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana in the Years Ending June 30, 1910-1928.

The chart furnishes an interesting study of the incidence of failures in this agricultural district. Business firms were the first to feel the effects of the depression. These firms are mostly mercantile establishments. Farmer bankruptcies lagged behind failures of business firms by somewhat less than a year in the early years of the readjustment period and reached their first peak about a year and a half later than the first peak of business failures. Bank failures lagged far behind business and farmer failures of the early years and did not reach large proportions until the year after business failures reached their first peak.

The high level of farmer bankruptcies lasted a shorter time than either of the other classes of

failures. The high level of business failures lasted the longest. Farmer bankruptcies and bank failures have both declined sharply for two years, while the decrease in failures of business firms has been less pronounced during these two years. In the farmer bankruptcy situation the greatest decreases in the last year, as compared with the preceding year, occurred in North Dakota and Montana, and the smallest decrease occurred in Minnesota.

BANKRUPTCIES AND FAILURES IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

(Farmer bankruptcies are fiscal year totals ending June 30; business failures and bank failures are calendar year totals ending December 31)

	Bankruptcy Among Farmers					Busi- ness Fail- ures	Bank Fail- ures
	Minn.	N.D.	S.D.	Mont.	4 States		
1910	60	67	30	9	166	....	...
1911	28	41	11	9	89	....	...
1912	29	54	19	20	122	....	...
1913	32	92	25	38	187	....	...
1914	29	105	42	55	231	....	...
1915	16	111	33	71	231	....	...
1916	19	90	16	81	206	....	...
1917	59	60	50	90	259	....	...
1918	49	61	17	38	165	....	...
1919	16	37	6	52	111	....	149
1920	42	50	18	63	173	....	248
1921	57	93	24	82	256	....	703
1922	189	237	38	215	679	....	1,024
1923	291	615	148	366	1,420	....	975
1924	430	782	236	551	1,999	....	961
1925	369	629	352	460	1,810	....	1,038
1926	419	536	368	624	1,947	....	1,127
1927	294	376	352	245	1,267	....	1,081
1928	266	153	239	126	784	....	834

Sources:

Farm Bankruptcies; U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Business Failures; R. G. Dun and Company.
Bank Failures 1921-1928; Federal Reserve Board.
Bank Failures 1920; Office Records.

On page 196 and 197 of this review will be found records of the business volume in the Ninth Federal Reserve District during the five years 1924-1928. It will be seen that on the whole the volume of business during 1928 was larger than in 1927. The cash value at terminal market prices of farm products sold, was smaller in 1928 than in 1927, and larger than in 1926.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

As the year-end statistics of banking gradually become available it appears that country banks in the district experienced a small increase in deposits during 1928. The deposits of member banks in cities of less than fifteen thousand population increased 14 million dollars, or 3 per cent, during the year. The deposits of member banks in the smaller cities and towns increased in every state, except North Dakota.

Further evidence of the increase in deposits was found in the tabulation of December called reports from one hundred and seventeen selected country member banks. At these banks there were only minor changes in deposits between October 3 and

December 31, but over the past year these banks experienced an increase of 6 per cent in total deposits. The most important contribution made by the tabulation of reports from these selected banks is that it is possible to determine banking trends in the various economic regions of the district. Deposit increases, according to the evidence furnished by these banks, were largest in the livestock range banks, where a 12 per cent increase in deposits over last year was reported. In the lumber and mining regions, deposits increased 7 per cent. In the spring wheat belt deposits increased 6 per cent, and in the mixed farming region, which constitutes most of the southern and eastern part of the district, deposits increased 4 per cent. These increases are probably larger than will be shown for all banks in the district when the records become available in the next sixty days.

On the asset side of the reports from these one hundred and seventeen banks, security holdings increased 10 per cent, as compared with the same date last year, and loans increased 7 per cent. In view of the practice of including certain short-term investments, such as acceptances, commercial paper and loans to brokers, with the loans to customers under the general heading of "Loans and Discounts," it is impossible to say what proportion of the increase in loans was used to accommodate the needs of customers. Hence, the significant change in assets at the present time appears to be the increase in security holdings. Livestock range banks increased their holdings of securities 24 per cent. Banks in the lumber and mining regions increased their security holdings 14 per cent; wheat belt banks increased their security holdings 11 per cent and banks in the mixed farming territory increased their security holdings 5 per cent.

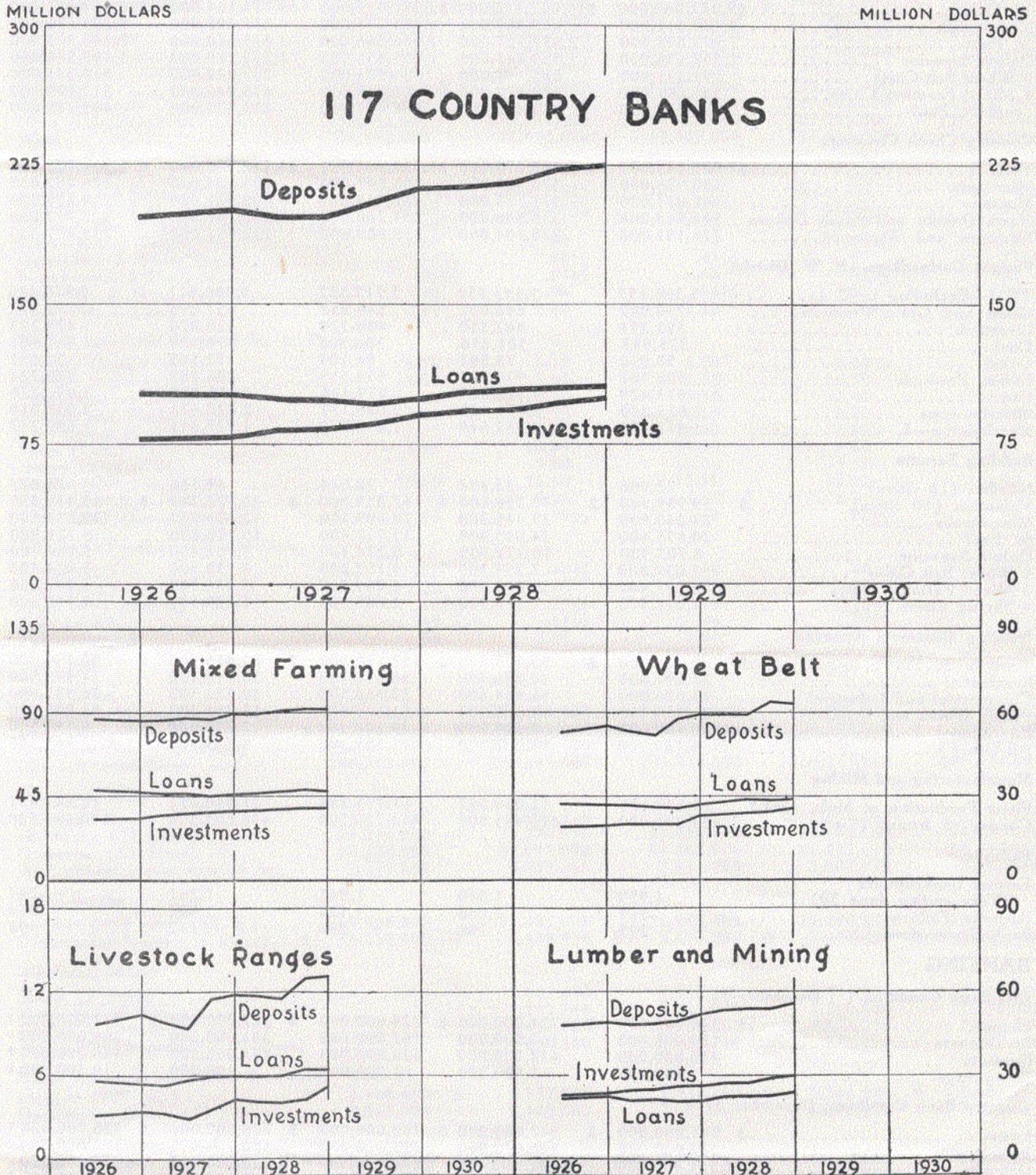
Country bank borrowings from this Federal Reserve Bank on January 16 were slightly larger than on the corresponding date a year ago. The seasonal reduction in borrowings by country banks since the summer peak has been smaller this year than last year.

The twenty-four city member banks from which weekly reports are received held about the same volume of deposits on January 16, 1929 as a year earlier. During the year, there was a decrease of 14 million dollars in deposits "due to banks," which was nearly offset by an increase of 10 million dollars in other demand deposits and an increase of 3 million dollars in time deposits. During the same yearly period, the loans of these banks secured by stocks and bonds decreased 5 million dollars; other loans increased 16 million dollars and investment holdings decreased 2 million dollars. Borrowings at this Federal Reserve Bank increased 8 million dollars.

A slight revision has been made in the figures for reporting city member banks, beginning with the report for January 9, 1929. The revision principally concerns loans, which in future will exclude acceptances, bills of exchange or drafts of other banks sold with the endorsement of the reporting banks,

and will include all real estate mortgages and mortgage loans held by reporting banks. Mortgages have been classified as loans by most banks and the revision, consequently, does not greatly impair the

comparability of the new figures with those of previous years. A full description of the revision in this report will be found in the Federal Reserve Bulletin for January 1929.



Country Banking Trends in the Ninth Federal Reserve District, as indicated by reports of 117 selected country member banks on call dates, June 30, 1926 to December 31, 1928. The small charts show the country banking trends of these selected banks grouped according to economic regions in the district.

THE YEARS 1924 TO 1928 IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

GENERAL BUSINESS

Debits to Individual Accounts

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
17 Cities	\$9,031,060,000	\$10,022,148,000	\$9,381,035,000	\$9,721,164,000	\$10,382,961,000
Minneapolis	4,408,011,000	5,069,367,000	4,683,975,000	4,837,607,000	5,295,476,000
St. Paul	1,973,891,000	2,037,327,000	1,986,866,000	2,073,638,000	2,148,393,000
Duluth-Superior	1,362,656,000	1,369,841,000	1,051,855,000	1,211,119,000	1,197,348,000
8 Wheat Belt Cities.....	599,351,000	685,198,000	704,834,000	709,028,000	810,335,000
4 Mixed Farming Cities.....	365,081,000	420,972,000	464,848,000	475,947,000	512,129,000
South St. Paul	322,070,000	439,443,000	488,657,000	413,825,000	419,280,000

Country Check Clearings

Total	\$1,089,041,000	\$ 1,160,778,000	\$1,132,806,000	\$1,112,008,000	\$ 1,201,920,000
Minnesota	359,936,000	370,317,000	408,943,000	404,184,000	426,482,000
Montana	148,011,000	173,777,000	186,614,000	202,527,000	219,279,000
North Dakota and South Dakota	304,943,000	338,380,000	297,260,000	282,746,000	322,752,000
Michigan and Wisconsin.....	276,151,000	278,304,000	239,989,000	222,551,000	233,407,000

Freight Carloadings—N. W. District

Total—Excluding L. C. L.....	5,366,157	5,633,450	5,717,822	5,500,811	5,578,688
Grain and Grain Products.....	730,007	646,001	549,952	651,099	722,393
Livestock	505,231	462,710	480,120	428,070	425,203
Coal	375,933	381,616	386,508	378,129	337,581
Coke	58,030	73,897	84,104	72,565	72,891
Forest Products	958,487	979,333	954,515	886,289	870,724
Ore	913,429	1,126,485	1,239,446	1,056,233	1,091,878
Miscellaneous	1,825,040	1,963,408	2,023,177	2,028,426	2,058,018
Merchandise—L. C. L.	1,512,425	1,637,649	1,692,270	1,728,613	1,689,247

Building Permits

Number (18 cities)	22,006	23,492	20,044	18,166	18,077
Valuation (18 cities)	\$ 59,939,900	\$ 73,250,800	\$ 57,859,800	\$ 49,722,200	\$ 49,479,300
Minneapolis	23,240,900	29,446,300	20,609,300	22,421,700	23,257,800
St. Paul	20,895,600	24,045,800	15,710,400	10,128,800	8,729,900
Duluth-Superior	8,703,300	10,372,900	8,234,100	5,806,400	5,154,100
4 Wheat Belt Cities	1,059,800	2,254,300	4,152,600	4,359,500	5,024,400
6 Mixed Farming Cities.....	4,967,400	5,860,600	8,067,900	5,976,300	6,202,300
4 Mining Cities	1,072,900	1,270,900	1,085,500	1,029,500	1,110,800

Building Contracts Awarded

Total	\$ 88,263,700	\$ 95,228,800	\$ 102,118,000	\$ 83,816,700	\$ 80,190,700
Residential	33,697,800	40,285,700	38,076,100	30,115,100	24,942,500
Commercial and Industrial	13,626,800	16,864,600	22,160,500	18,822,300	16,337,600
Public Works and Utilities	21,310,200	14,873,300	21,191,400	17,861,200	23,805,600
Educational	10,459,600	8,118,200	9,106,700	7,274,600	6,159,500
All Other	9,169,300	15,087,000	11,583,300	9,743,500	8,945,500

Manufacturing and Mining

Flour Production at Mpls. (bbl.)	11,679,130	12,059,557	11,793,258	11,540,051	12,241,452
Copper (5 firms) (lbs.).....	374,291,900	420,435,500	432,726,500	416,602,300	446,494,500

Failures

Farmer Bankruptcies (Year ending June 30).....	1,999	1,810	1,947	1,267	784
Business Failures	961	1,038	1,127	1,081	834
Bank Suspensions	295	168	283	142	94

BANKING

City Bank Condition (1) December 31

Loans	\$ 246,000,000	\$ 224,000,000	\$ 226,000,000	\$ 227,000,000	\$ 222,000,000 2
Investments	154,000,000	165,000,000	167,000,000	201,000,000	206,000,000 2
Deposits	450,000,000	438,000,000	436,000,000	473,000,000	466,000,000 2
Borrowings	900,000	1,500,000	1,700,000	100,000	10,200,000 2

Country Bank Condition, December 31

Loans	\$ 881,000,000	\$ 842,000,000	\$ 760,000,000	\$ 720,000,000	\$ 728,000,000 2
Investments	274,000,000	326,000,000	337,000,000	380,000,000	396,000,000 2
Deposits	1,331,000,000	1,322,000,000	1,216,000,000	1,228,000,000	1,256,000,000 2
Borrowings	22,600,000	14,200,000	13,200,000	7,800,000	9,500,000 2

(1) National Banks in Minneapolis and St. Paul and Savings Banks and Trust Companies in Minnesota

(2) October 3, 1928 for National Banks; Autumn call dates for State Banks

THE YEARS 1924 TO 1928 IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

(CONTINUED)

FARMING

Farmers' Cash Income

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Total of Items Below.....	\$ 750,498,000	\$ 819,720,000	\$ 726,980,000	\$ 794,729,000	\$ 772,172,000
Bread Wheat	215,911,000	214,557,000	145,594,000	218,554,000	201,362,000
Durum Wheat	71,037,000	69,685,000	53,713,000	77,886,000	91,518,000
Rye	41,955,000	18,063,000	12,003,000	25,762,000	18,870,000
Flax	60,886,000	52,847,000	30,808,000	40,667,000	35,785,000
Potatoes	26,166,000	36,052,000	48,276,000	39,175,000	29,342,000
Dairy Products	167,316,000	201,286,000	210,495,000	227,642,000	243,631,000
Hogs	156,655,000	215,731,000	214,622,000	153,345,000	136,739,000
Wool	10,572,000	11,499,000	11,469,000	11,698,000	14,925,000

Prices

	Dec. 1924	Dec. 1925	Dec. 1926	Dec. 1927	Dec. 1928
Median Cash Grain Prices at Mpls.					
Wheat—No. 1 D. N. S. (bu.).....	\$1.69	\$1.74 ⁵ / ₈	\$1.48 ⁵ / ₈	\$1.34 ¹ / ₂	\$1.21 ³ / ₄
Durum—No. 2 Amber (Duluth) (bu.)	1.66 ¹ / ₂	1.53	1.78	1.27	1.06 ¹ / ₂
Corn—No. 3 Yellow (bu.).....	1.20	.80	.76	.83 ³ / ₈	.78
Oats—No. 3 White (bu.).....	.54 ⁵ / ₈	.38 ¹ / ₂	.45 ¹ / ₂	.52	.43 ¹ / ₄
Barley—No. 3 (bu.).....	.85 ¹ / ₂	.63 ¹ / ₂	.66	.82 ¹ / ₂	.58
Rye—No. 2 (bu.).....	1.30	.98	.94 ¹ / ₄	1.02	.99
Flax—No. 1 (bu.).....	2.84	2.60	2.23	2.14 ³ / ₈	2.38 ¹ / ₂

Median Livestock Prices at So. St. Paul

Butcher Cows (Cwt.)	4.50	5.75	6.00	8.00	8.25
Butcher Steers (Cwt.)	6.50	8.00	7.50	10.50	10.50
Prime Butcher Steers (Cwt.).....	.....	9.50	9.10	13.00	12.50
Stocker and Feeder Steers (Cwt.)	5.00	6.75	6.25	8.50	9.00
Veal Calves (Cwt.)	7.75	9.75	10.00	10.50	12.50
Hogs (Cwt.)	8.85	10.85	11.35	8.00	8.25
Heavy Hogs (Cwt.).....	.....	9.00	10.50	7.50	7.85
Lambs (Cwt.)	15.00	15.50	12.50	12.50	13.50
Ewes (Cwt.) .....	.....	8.00	6.00	6.00	7.00
Wool (lb.) (farm price).....	.43	.39 ¹ / ₂	.33	.32 ¹ / ₂	.36

Wholesale Produce Prices at Mpls.

Butter (lb.) .....	.39	.46 ¹ / ₂	.48	.48	.47
Milk (cwt.)	2.22	2.65	2.52	2.63	2.61
Eggs (4 ¹ / ₂ pounds) (lb.).....	.18 ¹ / ₂	.23 ¹ / ₂	.19	.18 ¹ / ₂	.20 ¹ / ₂
Eggs (doz.) .....	.48	.41 ¹ / ₂	.44	.37 ¹ / ₂	.33 ¹ / ₂
Potatoes (bu.) .....	.60	2.48	1.53	1.05	.60

TRADE

Retail Sales

Lumber (498 yards) (bd. ft.)...	106,568,000	134,633,000	134,951,000	135,723,000	147,483,000
Dept. Store Sales (20 stores)...	\$ 29,967,560	\$ 31,069,040	\$ 29,758,950	\$ 27,802,940	\$ 26,319,230
Securities Sold (13 firms).....	234,066,900	211,686,100	200,758,500	227,669,200	219,186,400
Life Insurance Sales	240,313,000	293,645,000	291,915,000	268,741,000	285,514,000

Wholesale Sales

Shoes (5 firms)	6,694,930	8,079,510	6,720,980	5,694,160	6,119,160
Hardware (12 firms)	23,218,040	24,720,930	23,480,470	23,393,160	24,441,180
Groceries (43 firms)	58,322,690	62,011,090	57,802,910	61,102,070	60,439,980
Agricultural Implements (4 firms)	2,032,380	3,059,260	2,944,750	3,002,720	2,991,010

Retail Stocks

Lumber (483 yds.) (bd. ft.).....	69,266,000	73,437,000	76,242,000	76,410,000	72,771,000
Department Stores (16 firms)...	\$ 6,538,900	\$ 6,438,950	\$ 5,676,080	\$ 5,467,430	\$ 5,085,400

Wholesale Stocks

Shoes (5 firms) .....	.....	1,847,490	1,160,140	1,435,600	1,618,800
Hardware (9 firms) .....	.....	2,592,240	2,663,000	2,350,650	2,446,900
Groceries (38 firms) .....	.....	8,339,720	8,529,290	7,674,850	8,040,790
Agricultural Implements (2 firms)	.....	250,390	331,740	277,250	327,460

Retail Accounts and Notes Receivable—Dec. 31

Lumber (508 yds.)	\$ 3,308,600	\$ 3,132,600	\$ 3,452,200	\$ 3,362,900	\$ 3,681,700
Department Stores (15 firms)...	2,385,900	2,580,640	2,485,300	2,377,500	2,226,860

Wholesale Accounts and Notes Receivable—Dec. 31

Shoes (5 firms)	\$ 2,297,840	\$ 2,723,800	\$ 1,900,700	\$ 1,823,880	\$ 1,216,280
Hardware (11 firms)	2,177,710	2,060,840	2,061,700	2,171,750	2,231,240
Groceries (43 firms)	5,265,190	5,966,630	5,637,250	5,925,150	6,109,040
Agricultural Implements (2 firms)	336,200	305,200	403,800	521,510	438,500

(³) November 30, 1928

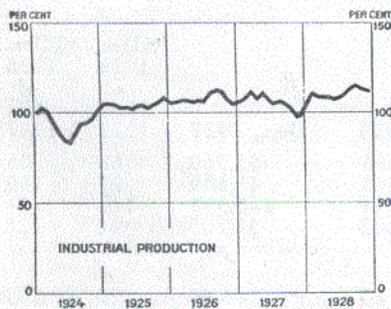
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Debits to Individual Accounts, Daily Averages—Unit	Dec., 1928	Nov., 1928	Dec., 1927	%Dec.	%Dec.
				1928 of Nov. 1928	1928 of Dec. 1927
17 Cities	\$37,606,000	\$40,935,000	\$33,477,000	92	112
Minneapolis	19,019,000	20,314,000	16,470,000	94	115
St. Paul	8,137,000	7,995,000	7,732,000	102	105
Duluth-Superior	4,025,000	5,479,000	3,670,000	73	110
8 Wheat Belt Cities	2,977,000	3,447,000	2,507,000	86	119
4 Mixed Farming Cities	1,964,000	1,851,000	1,507,000	106	130
South St. Paul	1,484,000	1,849,000	1,602,000	80	93
Carloadings—Northwestern District—					
Total—Excluding L. C. L. Cars	317,276	439,970	320,995	72	99
Grains and Grain Products	54,849	65,795	52,596	83	104
Livestock	38,888	37,432	38,517	104	101
Coal	36,847	38,275	49,667	96	74
Coke	5,926	5,474	6,909	108	86
Forest Products	55,831	67,662	55,690	83	100
Ore	2,125	60,871	2,297	3	93
Miscellaneous	122,810	164,461	115,319	75	106
Merchandise—L. C. L. Cars	125,746	137,463	130,196	91	97
Building Permits—					
Number—18 Cities	813	1,233	435	66	187
Value—18 Cities	\$ 2,440,200	\$ 4,006,200	\$ 2,251,400	61	108
Minneapolis	905,500	1,715,200	625,600	53	145
St. Paul	705,600	995,000	204,100	71	346
Duluth-Superior	169,400	340,000	1,030,000	50	16
4 Wheat Belt Cities	115,500	255,700	49,100	45	235
6 Mixed Farming Cities	449,100	683,800	317,100	66	142
4 Mining Cities	95,100	16,500	25,500	576	373
Building Contracts Awarded—					
Total	3,828,000	5,764,000	3,032,600	66	126
Residential	1,170,800	2,119,300	1,131,000	55	104
Commercial and Industrial	801,400	2,173,500	424,900	37	189
Public Works and Utilities	856,500	743,900	1,412,700	115	61
Educational	881,300	275,300	40,000	320	2203
All Other	118,000	452,000	24,000	26	492
Cash Value of Farm Products Sold—					
Bread Wheat	12,947,000	23,240,000	12,397,000	56	104
Durum Wheat	6,648,000	8,916,000	4,581,000	75	145
Rye	1,026,000	1,555,000	1,495,000	66	69
Flax	1,345,000	5,828,000	1,046,000	23	129
Potatoes	1,009,000	2,076,000	1,119,000	49	90
Dairy Products—See Note	16,405,000	17,305,000	15,229,000	95	108
Hogs	17,266,000	16,513,000	20,616,000	105	84
Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior—					
Wheat	54,664,633 Bu.	50,776,608	32,857,771	108	166
Corn	1,109,408 Bu.	115,690	1,646,411	959	67
Oats	2,557,896 Bu.	2,517,615	7,842,195	102	33
Barley	3,709,960 Bu.	3,034,047	653,019	122	568
Rye	2,569,989 Bu.	2,187,534	1,423,581	117	181
Flax	1,313,818 Bu.	1,632,946	4,014,559	80	33
Median Cash Grain Prices—					
Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern	Bu. \$1.21 $\frac{3}{4}$	\$1.23 $\frac{5}{8}$	\$1.34 $\frac{1}{2}$	98	91
Durum—No. 2 Amber	Bu. 1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.12	1.27	95	84
Corn—No. 3 Yellow	Bu. .78	.82	.83 $\frac{7}{8}$	95	93
Oats—No. 3 White	Bu. .43 $\frac{1}{4}$	.41 $\frac{1}{2}$	.52	104	83
Barley—No. 3	Bu. .58	.59	.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	98	70
Rye—No. 2	Bu. .99	.99	1.02	100	97
Flax—No. 1	Bu. 2.38 $\frac{1}{2}$	2.32 $\frac{3}{4}$	2.14 $\frac{3}{8}$	102	111
Wholesale Produce Prices—					
Butter	Lb. .47	.48	.48	98	98
Milk	Cwt. 2.61	2.60	2.63	100	99
Hens—4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Pounds	Lb. .20 $\frac{1}{2}$	.19 $\frac{1}{2}$	.18 $\frac{1}{2}$	105	111
Eggs	Doz. .33 $\frac{1}{2}$	.35	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$	96	89
Potatoes	Bu. .60	.60	1.05	100	57

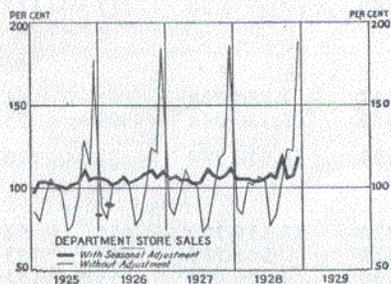
Note: Nov., 1928, Oct., 1928 and Nov., 1927.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT
(Continued)

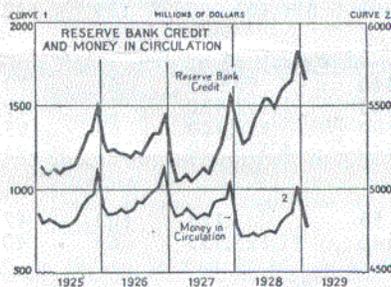
	Unit	Dec., 1928	Nov., 1928	Dec., 1927	%Dec. 1928 of Nov. 1928	%Dec. 1928 of Dec. 1927
Livestock Receipts at South St. Paul—						
Cattle	Head	56,795	90,060	65,960	63	86
Calves	Head	41,802	47,346	41,680	88	100
Hogs	Head	345,550	305,248	468,393	113	74
Sheep	Head	70,064	158,842	54,605	44	128
Median Livestock Prices at South St. Paul—						
Butcher Cows	Cwt.	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$8.00	100	103
Butcher Steers	Cwt.	10.50	10.75	10.50	98	100
Prime Butcher Steers	Cwt.	12.50	14.00	13.00	89	96
Stocker and Feeder Steers	Cwt.	9.00	9.00	8.50	100	106
Veal Calves	Cwt.	12.50	13.00	10.50	96	119
Hogs	Cwt.	8.25	8.65	8.00	95	103
Heavy Hogs	Cwt.	7.85	8.25	7.50	95	105
Lambs	Cwt.	13.50	12.75	12.50	106	108
Ewes	Cwt.	7.00	6.00	6.00	117	117
Flour—						
Production—Twin Cities and Duluth- Superior	Bbls.	1,110,611	1,083,767	1,284,708	102	86
Shipments from Minneapolis	Bbls.	890,558	900,374	1,120,844	99	79
Linseed Products Shipments from Minneapolis—	Lbs.	34,516,591	45,090,101	34,618,534	77	100
Retail Sales—						
Department Stores		\$3,450,030	\$2,220,420	\$3,656,150	155	94
Furniture Stores		603,690	517,820	586,700	117	103
Country Lumber Yards	Bd. Ft.	7,001,000	13,302,000	4,624,000	53	151
Retail Merchandise Stocks—						
Department Stores		\$5,085,400	\$6,116,180	\$5,467,430	83	93
Furniture Stores		2,655,000	2,845,230	2,748,500	93	97
Country Lumber Yards	Bd. Ft.	72,771,000	75,810,000	76,410,000	96	95
Life Insurance Sales—(4 States)		\$29,614,000	\$22,924,000	\$26,461,000	129	112
Wholesale Trade—						
Farm Implements		68,810	107,340	90,080	64	70
Hardware		1,960,450	2,160,360	1,792,440	91	109
Shoes		334,320	528,100	353,120	63	95
Groceries		4,239,630	5,177,740	4,558,380	82	93
Business Failures—						
Number		56	55	118	102	47
Liabilities		\$447,700	\$710,546	\$1,125,953	63	40
Securities Sold—						
To Banks		1,344,400	1,702,700	5,865,700	79	23
To Insurance Companies		810,000	1,101,100	1,179,500	74	69
To General Public		6,567,000	7,669,300	10,273,900	86	64
Real Estate Activity in						
Hennepin and Ramsey Counties—						
Warranty Deeds Recorded		3,215	2,005	3,669	160	88
Mortgages Recorded		1,572	1,552	1,563	101	101
					%Jan. 1929 of Dec. 1928	%Jan. 1929 of Jan. 1928
24 City Member Banks—						
Loans Secured by Stocks and Bonds		\$79,127,000	\$77,764,000	\$83,801,000	102	94
All Other Loans		181,749,000	186,092,000	165,833,000	98	110
Securities		130,906,000	133,210,000	133,385,000	98	98
Net Demand Deposits Subject to Reserve		221,347,000	229,947,000	223,320,000	96	99
Time Deposits		141,348,000	137,398,000	138,295,000	103	102
Borrowings at Federal Reserve Bank		10,409,000	2,809,000	2,250,000	371	463
Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank—						
Bills Discounted		13,341,558	7,348,151	4,153,987	182	321
Federal Reserve Notes in Circulation		61,978,890	65,093,830	58,224,875	95	106



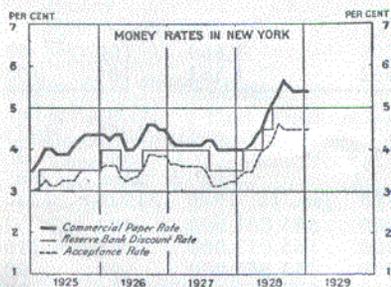
Index number of production of manufactures and minerals combined, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average—100). Latest figure, December, 111.



Federal Reserve Board's index of department store sales (1923-25 average—100). Latest figures, December, adjusted index, 117, unadjusted index, 188.



Monthly averages of daily figures. Latest figures are averages of first 23 days in January.



Monthly rates in the open market in New York: commercial paper rate on 4- to 6-month paper and acceptance rate on 90-day bankers' acceptances. Latest figures are averages of first 24 days in January.

Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled January 26 by Federal Reserve Board)

Industry and trade continued active in December, and the general level of prices remained unchanged. Banking and credit conditions at the turn of the year were influenced chiefly by seasonal changes in the demand for currency and by requirements for end-of-year financial settlements.

PRODUCTION: The output of manufactures decreased in December, but the decline was less than is usual during the month, and the Board's index was slightly higher than in November and above the level of a year ago. Smaller than usual seasonal reductions were reported in the daily average output of steel, pig iron, automobiles, copper, cement, silk and flour, while cotton and wool textiles declined considerably. Meat packing increased in December, reflecting a larger output of pork products, though beef and mutton production was smaller. The volume of factory employment and payrolls was larger than at this season of last year. Production of minerals was in somewhat smaller volume in December than in November, reflecting chiefly a larger reduction in the output of bituminous and anthracite coal. Production of copper and zinc ore on a daily average basis was slightly smaller, while petroleum output increased. Preliminary reports for the first half of January indicate a steady increase in the output of petroleum and greater activity in the steel, automobile, coal and lumber industries, following the temporary lull during the inventory period at the end of the year.

Building contracts awarded in some eastern states declined sharply during December, as in the preceding month, and were smaller than in any December since 1924. The decline from November was attributable largely to decreases in awards for residential building and public works and utilities. By districts, the largest declines over the preceding month were in the Cleveland, Chicago, Boston and Richmond Federal Reserve Districts, while increases were reported in the New York, Philadelphia and Atlanta districts.

TRADE: Department store trade showed greater activity in December than in the preceding month, after allowance is made for the customary holiday increase. Total sales for the month were the largest on record, exceeding December, 1927 by 1 per cent, although there was one less trading day this year. Increases over a year ago were reported for the New York and Philadelphia districts, while substantial decreases occurred in Atlanta and Minneapolis. Distribution at wholesale declined seasonally and was smaller than a year ago. Freight carloadings in December and the first half of January showed a slightly larger than usual seasonal reduction but, as in earlier months, were above a year ago.

PRICES: The general level of wholesale prices, as measured by the index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, remained approximately the same during December as in the preceding month. Average prices of iron and steel, automobiles, copper and building materials continued to advance slowly, and prices of farm products, after declining during October and November, also rose in December, reflecting higher average prices for raw cotton, oats, rye and some grades of wheat, offset in part by lower prices for corn and cattle. In the first three weeks of January, the prices of rubber advanced sharply and wheat, corn, potatoes and flour also increased, while silk and sugar decreased somewhat, and hides reached the lowest level in more than a year.

BANK CREDIT: Banking and credit conditions in January were influenced chiefly by the seasonal decline in the volume of money in circulation. At the Reserve banks, the return flow of currency from circulation resulted in a liquidation of member bank borrowing and small declines in Reserve bank holdings of acceptances and of United States securities. Total bills and securities showed a decline of about \$450,000,000 for the period from December 26 to January 23, and were in about the same volume as in midsummer of last year. At member banks there was an increase in the total volume of loans at the turn of the year, due chiefly to year-end financial settlements, and the temporary withdrawal of funds loaned by corporations in the New York market. In January deposits and loans of member banks declined to approximately the level of the early part of December. In the money market rates on call loans declined sharply in January, while rates on time loans on securities remained firm and rates on acceptances advanced.