

# MONTHLY REVIEW

## OF

### AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS

#### IN THE

#### NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

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#### DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BUSINESS

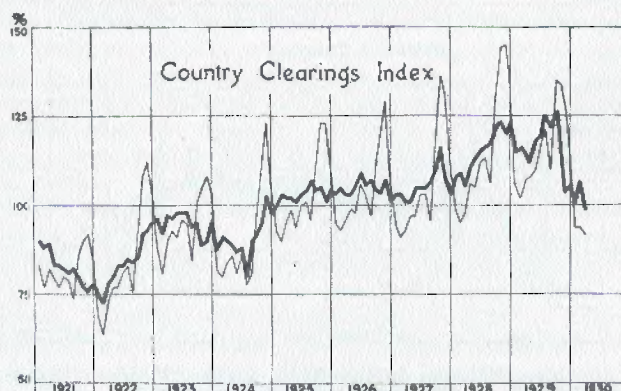
The majority of business indexes for the district were lower in March than a year ago. The four principal reasons for the lower level of business were the increasing adverse effect of the small crop of 1929, the low prices of wheat and butter, the heavy marketing of wheat in February which brought into that month some of the business which would normally have been transacted in March, and the later date of Easter this year than a year ago. Looking at the record of past years, it is seen that the effect of small crops has been to reduce the volume of business, after making allowance for purely seasonal factors, until mid-summer of the following year. The course of business during the present crop year is apparently no exception to this general trend. The effect of a late Easter is probably not very great except in the dry goods and apparel trade divisions of business.

Debits to individual accounts decreased 6 per cent in March, as compared with the corresponding month last year. Decreases in individual debits were general throughout the district, except in the southwestern beef and pork area, of which Sioux Falls is the largest city. Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth did not experience as sharp decreases in individual debits as occurred in the smaller reporting cities and towns. The largest decrease in individual debits occurred in the eastern half of the spring wheat belt.

The country check clearings index is intended to provide a picture of business developments in the rural portion of the district. This index is based on the dollar volume of checks drawn on country banks in this district which are collected through the Federal Reserve Bank. These checks represent out-of-town payments or transfers of funds made by residents or firms in the rural part of the district, and provide a cross-section of the volume of business in the district outside of the Twin Cities. The index, after making adjustments for the sharp seasonal fluctuations, has proven in the past to be a sensitive barometer of rural business conditions, and has the added advantage of being continuous for a ten-year period.

The course of the adjusted country check clearings curve has been sharply downward since last

September with minor interruptions in December and February. The latter upturn was caused by the abnormally large volume of wheat marketings in February, and it is probable that part of the shrinkage in business volume during March was due to the same fact. The volume of country check clearings ordinarily increases in March as compared with February, but this year there was a decrease, and as a result the adjusted index dropped to the lowest level since 1924.



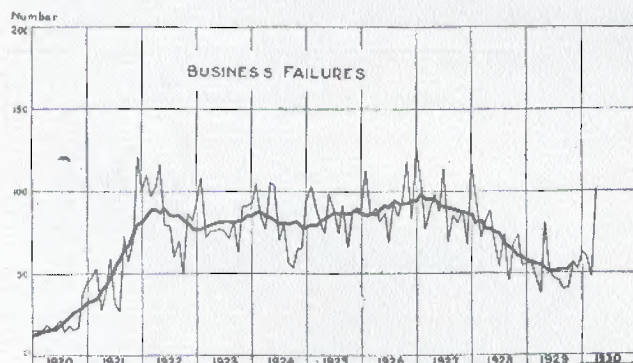
Country Check Clearings Index for the Ninth Federal Reserve District. The light curve represents figures without seasonal adjustments. The heavy curve represents figures with seasonal adjustments.

Lately there has been some evidence that the present seasonal corrections in the country check clearings index are becoming inadequate, on account of the use of the tractor combine for harvesting. During the last five years, the number of combine harvesters in use in Montana increased from 300 to 4,100. It has been estimated that the latter number was sufficient to harvest more than half of the small grain crops of Montana. Smaller numbers of combines are in use in other parts of the district. The use of the combine harvester shortens the harvesting period materially, depending on harvesting weather. It is probable that some of the peaks in the adjusted country clearings index in the fall of the last three years have been due to the early marketing of crops made possible by the combine harvester, and that seasonal corrections should be made to allow for this changing trend in business. Similarly, a portion of the troughs in the winter months is doubtless due to more business being transacted in the early fall



months. However, the exact effect on business of this early grain marketing is not yet known, although the effect is both permanent and important.

The other indexes of business activity indicated a smaller volume of business in March than in the corresponding month last year, although trends were somewhat mixed. Freight carloadings in the northwestern district, excluding less-than-carlot shipments, decreased 9 per cent from the level of March last year. Carloadings of miscellaneous freight decreased 6 per cent. Decreases, as compared with last year's March volume, also occurred in postal receipts, building permits, linseed product shipments, copper output, department store sales, and wholesale hardware and shoe trade. Increases, as compared with March last year, occurred in electric power consumption in Minnesota and the Dakotas, building contracts awarded, flour production and shipments, furniture sales, country lumber sales, securities sales and wholesale trade in farm implements and groceries. Business failures were two and one-half times as numerous in March, 1930, as in March of the preceding year.



Business Failures in the Ninth Federal Reserve District, as reported by R. G. Dun and Company. The heavy curve is the twelve-month moving average of the monthly data.

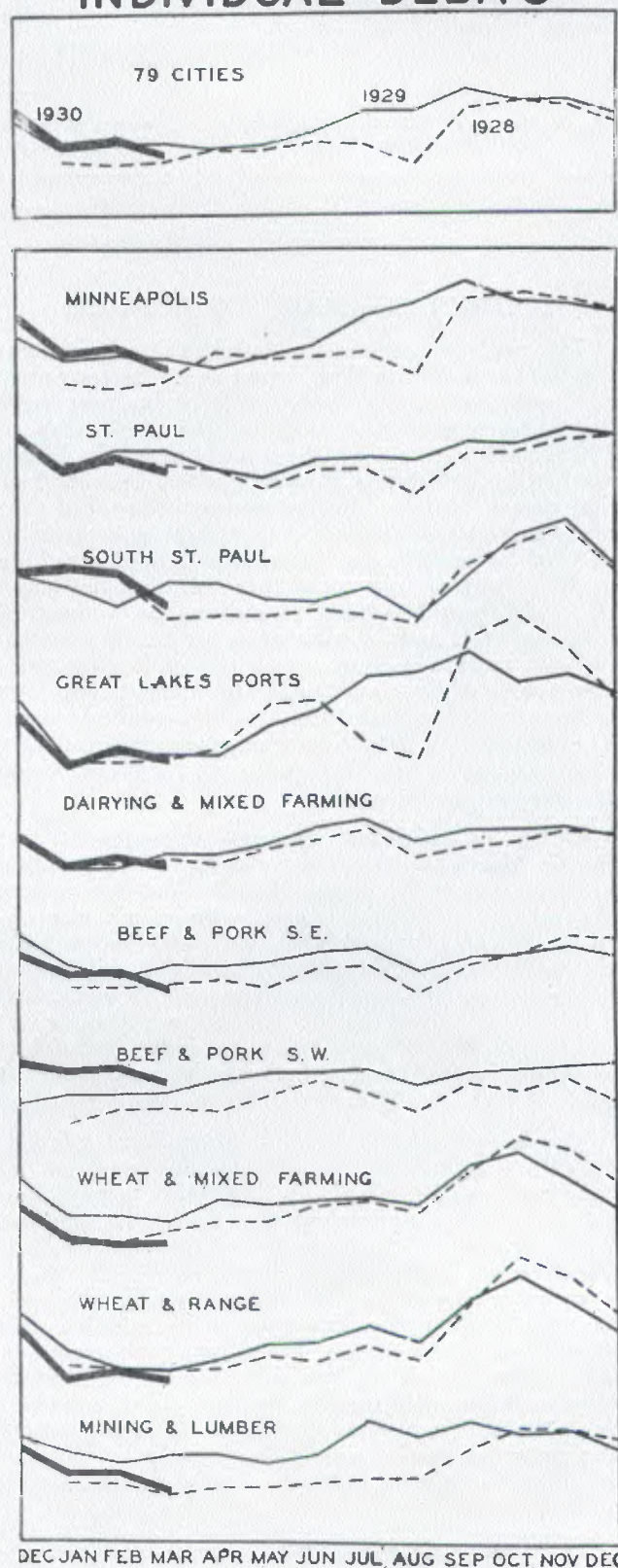
During the first half of April, debits to individual accounts and building contracts awarded increased and the country check clearings index decreased, as compared with the corresponding period last year. A factor in the increase in individual debits was the later date of Easter.

#### DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

The new crop season has started auspiciously. It opened early and the weather continued favorable for planting operations during the latter part of March and the early part of April, so that small grain seeding has been practically completed. Spring rains have visited nearly every section of the district and have had a beneficial effect on pastures, winter grains and early sown spring grain.

The butter situation improved during the month of March, as indicated by a reduction in storage stocks of butter and the stability of butter prices. On April 1, storage stocks of butter in the United States were 30½ million pounds. There was a reduction of 16 million pounds during the month of

#### NINTH FED. RES. DISTRICT INDIVIDUAL DEBITS





March, as compared with a five-year average reduction of 9 million pounds during March. However, butter stocks continued to be larger than stocks a year ago and larger than the five-year average for corresponding dates. The price for butterfat delivered during March was 41 cents per pound. This was an increase of 1 cent a pound over the price paid for February deliveries, but was 15 cents under the price of March last year. The slight increase in the price of butterfat in March as compared with February is noteworthy inasmuch as in five of the preceding seven years butterfat prices declined between February and March.

**Butter in Cold Storage**  
(Pounds; 000's omitted)

	Five-year Average	1928-9	1929-30
July 1 .....	76,903	69,750	91,962
August 1 .....	127,986	120,437	151,621
September 1 ....	144,574	136,175	168,952
October 1 .....	133,695	128,071	158,541
November 1 ....	111,059	105,811	138,405
December 1 ....	78,835	70,985	111,650
January 1 .....	48,580	43,783	81,935
February 1 .....	31,220	24,747	60,229
March 1 .....	17,874	11,910	46,530
April 1 .....	8,512	5,532	30,503

**Butter Prices**

	Five-year Average	1928-9	1929-30
July .....	38.4	41.5	40.0
August .....	39.2	44.0	40.5
September .....	41.6	46.5	44.0
October .....	43.4	45.5	42.5
November .....	46.0	48.0	40.0
December .....	45.7	47.0	37.5
January .....	42.2	45.5	32.5
February .....	43.1	46.5	32.5
March .....	43.7	45.5	33.5

Wheat marketings decreased rapidly during March and April to a volume below the level of marketings in January, after beginning the month

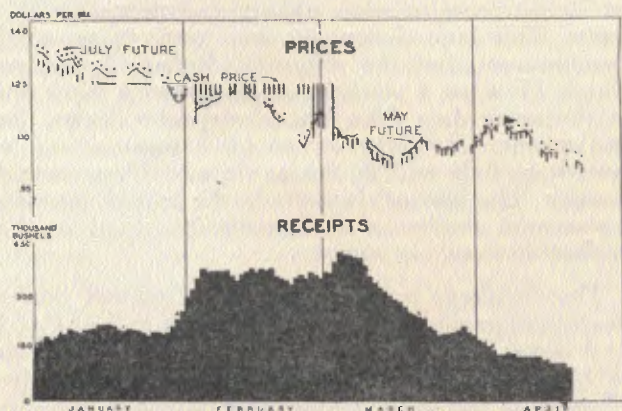
of March at a high rate of marketing caused by the abnormal relationship between the cash and future prices of wheat.

At this season of the year, wheat marketings are usually of relatively small importance. During the current season, however, they have assumed unusual importance on account of both the wide fluctuations in marketing and the heavy elevator stocks of grain at terminal markets. Up to April 12, grain stocks in elevators at Duluth-Superior were increasing, and on that date amounted to 37½ million bushels, as compared with a theoretical elevator capacity of about 43 million bushels. However, it is well understood that grain stocks can never equal the rated capacity of elevators on account of the need of some free elevator space for the proper operation of the elevators. Grain stocks at Duluth-Superior ordinarily increase during the winter until the opening of navigation on the Great Lakes, after which a decrease in grain stocks occurs until the beginning of the new crop marketing season.

Grain stocks at Minneapolis reached a peak in November, decreased from that peak until mid-December, and then increased until the end of January. Beginning in February, a moderate decrease in grain stocks has occurred, leaving in grain elevators and temporary storage a total of 56½ million bushels on April 12, as compared with a theoretical elevator capacity of 74½ million bushels. It is interesting to note that the increase in the rate of wheat marketing during February and early March caused an increase in grain stocks at Minneapolis for only one week, after which the decrease continued without interruption to the latest reported date. In other words, the mill consumption of wheat, together with the shipment and use of other grains, has more than offset receipts from the interior at Minneapolis during the last two months. However, grain stocks at Minneapolis, as well as at Duluth-Superior, were somewhat larger on April 12 than a year ago.

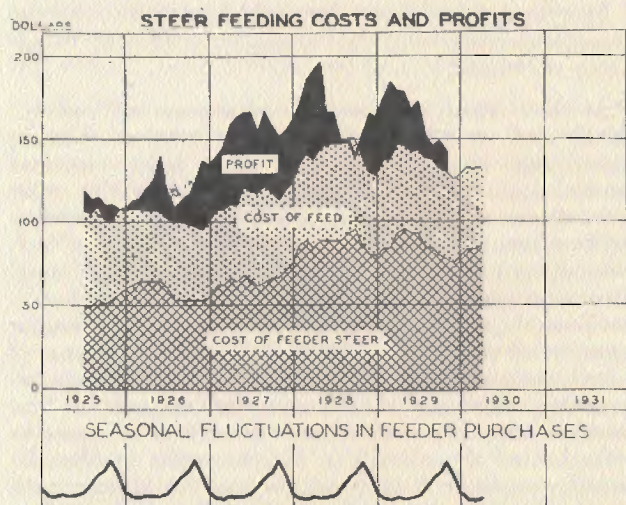
The estimated cash income from the marketing of cash crops, dairy products and hogs was 22 per cent smaller in March than in the corresponding month last year. Decreases occurred in all of the estimated items, except potatoes. Wheat marketings were smaller in March than in February or in March a year ago. March prices were lower than prices a year ago for wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, cattle, calves, hogs, lambs, butter, milk, hens and eggs, but prices were higher for flax and potatoes.

Profits to farmers from feeding steers were larger this year than a year ago. Steers purchased in October and sold in March yielded a profit of \$12.55 per head over the cost of the feeder steer and its feed, according to the index computed in this office. A year ago, steers purchased and sold in the corresponding months yielded a profit per head of \$12.18. Steers purchased in August and September of 1928 were sold at a loss in the spring of 1929, whereas steers purchased in the early fall of 1929 yielded a profit when sold this spring.



Wheat Prices at Minneapolis and Wheat Receipts at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior, January-April 1930.

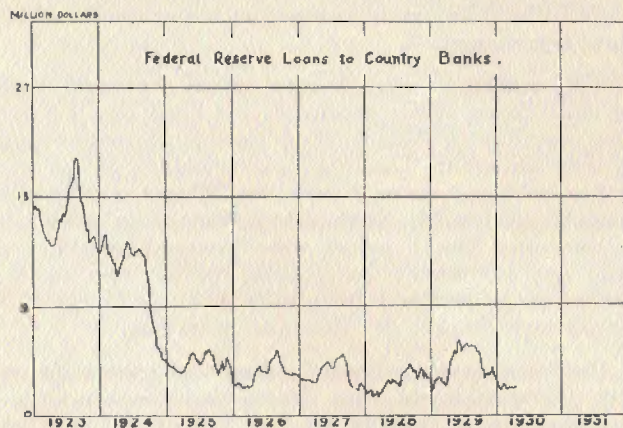




Steer Feeding Costs and Profits in the Northwest. The curve at the bottom of the chart illustrates the seasonal fluctuations in purchases of feeder steers at South St. Paul, and indicates the relative importance of the profit index at different times of year.

### DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

Country member banks have not increased their borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank this spring as much as they usually do after a small crop has been harvested in this district. They continued to borrow only small amounts from the Federal Reserve Bank during the four weeks ending April 16. There was a very minor seasonal increase in these borrowings, but the total on April 16 was only \$2,419,000, as compared with borrowings of \$4,563,000 on the corresponding date last year. Country bank borrowings on April 16 were within a few thousand dollars of the low post-war figure for the corresponding date established in 1928.

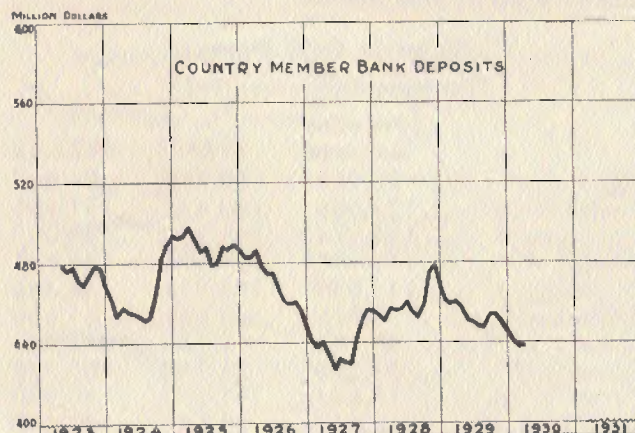


Federal Reserve Loans to Country Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

The volume of country bank balances carried with their city correspondents indicates a slack demand for funds by the customers of the country banks. Ordinarily during the last half of March and the month of April there is a sharp seasonal de-

crease in these balances. During the four weeks ending April 16 this year, the decrease in these balances was less pronounced than in the three preceding years, and on April 16 they were equal to the balances held on the same date last year, although they had been smaller than last year's totals for many months.

Country member bank deposits in March remained at the level established during February, which was 5 per cent lower than the level of these deposits a year ago. Changes in deposits between February and March were unimportant in all states.

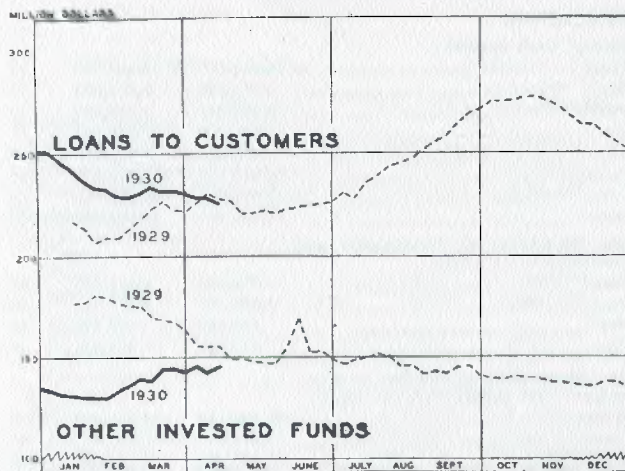


Country Member Bank Deposits in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

The call for condition reports as of March 27 affords an opportunity for a more exact analysis of developments in country banking during the first quarter of the year than was possible from the use of weekly and monthly data which are regularly available. After each call a tabulation is made of the reports of one hundred and seventeen of the larger country member banks in the district to obtain a quick picture of the country banking situation in the various economic areas of the district. The call of March 27 revealed that these banks had lost 2 per cent of their deposits during the first quarter of 1930. The loss in commercial and individual deposits was somewhat larger, but was offset by increases in state, county and municipal deposits. This loss of deposits was partly a seasonal development, but the deposits of these banks on March 27 were 4 per cent smaller than a year ago on the same date. The loss of deposits during the first quarter of the year was most pronounced in the wheat belt and in the cattle and sheep range country. The loss of deposits in the mixed farming region was smaller and deposits increased in the lumber and mining regions.

The shrinkage in deposits at these country banks was accompanied by a small decrease in loans and by a larger decrease in cash and balances due from banks. The shrinkage in loans was of varying significance in the different economic areas of the district. In the mixed farming region, the loan total was reduced in spite of an increase in holdings of



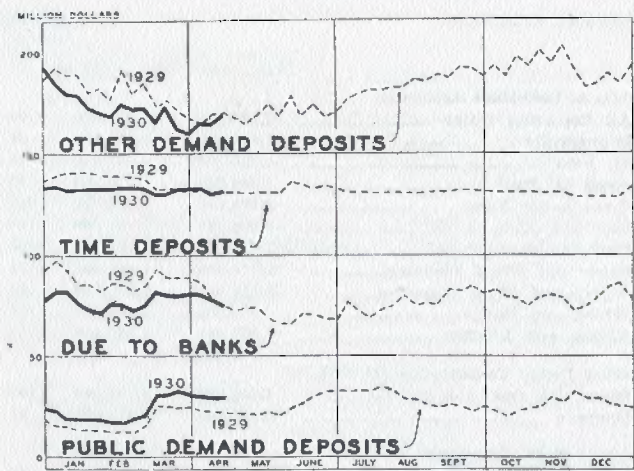


Principal Assets and Liabilities of Selected City Member Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District, as Reported Weekly in 1929 and 1930.

short-term investments which are listed as loans and include acceptances, commercial paper and brokers' loans, indicating that the reduction in loans to local customers was greater than the reported shrinkage in total loans. In the wheat belt, holdings of acceptances, commercial paper and brokers' loans decreased and loans to customers increased. In the cattle and sheep range banks, almost the entire shrinkage in loans was in the investment classifications. In the lumber and mining regions, the trend of total loans was upward, but upon analysis it was found that acceptances, commercial paper and loans to brokers increased, while loans to customers decreased.

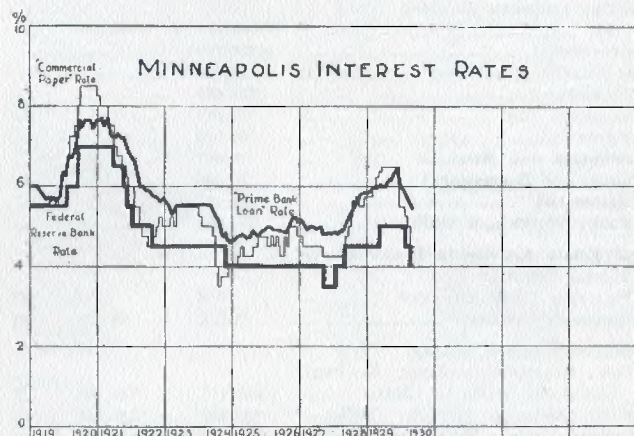
There was a small reduction in security holdings in the wheat belt and cattle range areas, and an increase in investment holdings in the mixed farming area and in the lumber and mining territories. There was a tendency at these country banks to reduce holdings of United States government bonds and to increase holdings of other securities.

City member banks in the district were out of debt to the Federal Reserve Bank on April 16. A year ago they were borrowing  $18\frac{1}{2}$  million dollars. Deposits of these city banks have decreased from the spring peak established in early March, but on April 16 they were 1 per cent larger than a year ago. The increase over last year's volume of deposits was entirely in the holdings of state, county and municipal funds. Time deposits and deposits due to banks were equal to last year's figures, and demand deposits of corporations and individuals were slightly smaller than last year's volume. Loans to customers at these city banks did not increase this spring as they did in 1929, and on April 16 they were 1 per cent smaller than a year ago. Last year it was necessary for city banks to reduce their investments in bonds, commercial paper, brokers' loans and acceptances throughout the spring, where-



as in 1930 it has been possible for them to increase their investments of these various classes. However, their invested funds were not as large on April 16 as on the corresponding date a year ago.

Interest rates in the district have been further reduced to the lowest levels in two years, according to the latest reports received. Minneapolis commercial banks reduced their rates on loans to customers to an average of about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent during the month ending April 15. This is the lowest rate quoted by these banks since the summer of 1928. The commercial paper rate to borrowers quoted by a leading commercial paper broker was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent on March 31. This was a reduction of one-half of 1 per cent from the rate reported one month earlier, and was the lowest reported rate since March, 1928. The discount rate of this Federal Reserve Bank was reduced to 4 per cent on April 15, bringing the rate down to the level prevailing in April, 1928.



Interest Rates at Minneapolis on Prime Bank Loans and Commercial Paper and the Discount Rate at the Federal Reserve Bank, 1919-1930.



## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

## GENERAL BUSINESS

	Mar., 1930	Mar., 1929	Per Cent Mar.'30 of Mar.'29
<b>Debits to Individual Accounts<sup>1</sup></b>			
All Reporting Cities .....	\$ 37,190,000	\$ 39,619,000	94
Minneapolis .....	16,484,000	17,174,000	96
St. Paul .....	6,996,000	7,602,000	92
South St. Paul .....	1,264,000	1,420,000	89
Great Lakes Ports .....	3,878,000	3,414,000	99
Beef and Pork, S. E. ....	1,225,000	1,381,000	89
Beef and Pork, S. W. ....	1,677,000	1,598,000	105
Dairy and Mixed Farming ..	1,476,000	1,600,000	92
Wheat and Mixed Farming ..	2,110,000	2,507,000	84
Wheat and Range .....	950,000	1,043,000	91
Mining and Lumber .....	1,680,000	1,880,000	89
<b>Electric Power Consumption (K.W.H.)<sup>1,2</sup></b>			
Minn., No. Dak. and So. Dak. ....	4,890,000	4,700,000	104
Montana .....	3,917,000	4,318,000	91
<b>Country Check Clearings<sup>1</sup></b>			
Total .....	\$ 3,194,000	\$ 3,705,000	86
Minnesota .....	1,170,000	1,420,000	82
Montana .....	537,000	608,000	88
North and South Dakota .....	816,000	928,000	88
Michigan and Wisconsin .....	660,000	742,000	89
<b>Postal Receipts</b>			
Six Cities .....	1,155,112	1,207,366	96
Minneapolis .....	597,033	640,278	93
St. Paul .....	388,951	390,965	99
Duluth .....	66,780	62,819	106
Three Other Cities .....	102,348	113,304	90
<b>Freight Carloadings—N. W. District</b>			
Total—Excluding L.C.L. ....	322,631	355,087	91
Grains and Grain Products .....	41,262	43,677	94
Livestock .....	28,682	31,368	91
Coal .....	22,710	23,400	97
Coke .....	5,605	7,749	72
Forest Products .....	73,649	87,667	84
Ore .....	1,703	2,553	66
Miscellaneous .....	149,068	158,673	94
Merchandise—L.C.L. ....	136,360	140,427	97
<b>Building Permits</b>			
Number—18 Cities .....	1,186	1,092	109
Value—18 Cities .....	\$ 2,522,300	\$ 2,815,800	90
Minneapolis .....	824,700	1,414,200	58
St. Paul .....	790,500	360,900	219
Duluth-Superior .....	92,800	240,200	39
4 Wheat Belt Cities .....	163,400	388,600	42
6 Mixed Farming Cities .....	570,300	297,900	191
4 Mining Cities .....	80,600	114,000	71
<b>Building Contracts Awarded</b>			
Total .....	\$ 9,392,300	\$ 5,989,200	157
Commercial .....	3,856,200	.....	.....
Industrial .....	225,500	.....	.....
Educational .....	825,600	.....	.....
Hospitals, etc. ....	139,000	.....	.....
Public .....	192,400	.....	.....
Religious and Memorial .....	70,000	.....	.....
Social and Recreational .....	40,500	.....	.....
Residential .....	1,441,500	.....	.....
Public Works and Utilities .....	2,601,600	.....	.....
<b>Real Estate Activity in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties</b>			
Warranty Deeds Recorded .....	806	824	98
Mortgages Recorded .....	1,173	1,328	88
<b>Manufacturing and Mining</b>			
Flour Production at Mpls., St. Paul, and Duluth-Superior (Bbls.) .....	1,247,217	984,336	127
Flour Shipments at Mpls. (Bbls.) .....	990,207	886,325	112
Linseed Product Shipments (Lbs.) .....	15,997,463	34,028,089	47
Copper Output (5 Firms) (Lbs.) .....	31,783,200	46,723,000	68
<b>Business Failures</b>			
Number .....	101	39	259
Liabilities .....	\$ 1,100,443	\$ 540,973	203

## AGRICULTURE

## Farmers' Cash Income

Total of 7 Items .....	\$ 38,413,000	\$ 49,415,000	78
Bread Wheat .....	5,572,000	7,215,000	77
Durum Wheat .....	2,663,000	5,468,000	49
Rye .....	262,000	556,000	47
Flax .....	409,000	707,000	58
Potatoes .....	4,315,000	2,678,000	161
Dairy Products .....	13,970,000	20,258,000	69
Hogs .....	11,222,000	12,533,000	90

## Grain Marketings at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)

Bread Wheat .....	4,204,000	4,571,000	92
Durum Wheat .....	2,690,000	4,374,000	62
Rye .....	393,000	550,000	71
Flax .....	140,000	285,000	49

## Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)

Wheat .....	60,566,169	57,349,399	106
Corn .....	1,664,601	2,463,214	68
Oats .....	9,382,355	2,006,031	468
Barley .....	5,361,199	5,748,549	93
Rye .....	3,682,785	3,557,428	104
Flax .....	708,333	603,109	117

## Livestock Receipts at So. St. Paul (Head)

Cattle .....	58,721	59,336	99
Calves .....	54,698	52,850	103
Hogs .....	220,258	227,141	97
Sheep .....	35,225	19,816	178

## Median Cash Grain Prices (Bus.)

Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern .....	\$1.137½	\$1.32	86
Durum—No. 2 Amber .....	.99	1.25	79
Corn—No. 3 Yellow .....	.77	.92	84
Oats—No. 3 White .....	.30½	.45½	88
Barley—No. 3 .....	.55	.64	86
Rye—No. 2 .....	.66½	1.01	65
Flax—No. 1 .....	2.92¼	2.48	118

## Median Livestock Prices (Cwt.)

Butcher Cows .....	\$ 7.75	\$ 8.50	91
Butcher Steers .....	11.00	11.50	96
Prime Butcher Steers .....	12.00	12.75	94
Feeder Steers .....	9.75	10.50	93
Veal Calves .....	10.00	14.50	69
Hogs .....	9.75	11.25	87
Heavy Hogs .....	9.25	11.00	84
Lambs .....	10.00	16.25	61
Ewes .....	5.10	7.00	73

## Wholesale Produce Prices

Butter (Lb.) .....	\$0.33½	\$0.45½	74
Milk (Cwt.) .....	2.00	2.50	80
Hens (Lb.) .....	.19½	.24	81
Eggs (Doz.) .....	.21¼	.26½	80
Potatoes (Bu.) .....	1.65	.66	250

## TRADE

## Department Stores

Sales .....	\$ 3,215,860	\$ 3,575,740	90
Merchandise Stocks .....	7,700,880	9,278,360	83
Receivables .....	3,303,010	3,543,540	93
Instalment Receivables .....	821,700	762,710	108

## Furniture Stores

Total Sales .....	450,940	433,250	104
Instalment Sales .....	275,710	304,480	91
Merchandise Stocks .....	2,693,860	2,572,150	105
Instalment Receivables .....	3,294,040	3,103,290	106

## Country Lumber Yards

Sales (Bd. Ft.) .....	6,657,000	6,564,000	101
Lumber Stocks (Bd. Ft.) .....	93,457,000	89,361,000	105
Total Sales .....	\$ 1,215,400	\$ 1,269,500	96
Receivables .....	3,394,400	3,301,600	103

## Life Insurance Sales

Four States .....	29,552,000	25,835,000	114
Minnesota .....	21,972,000	18,704,000	117
Montana .....	2,636,000	2,791,000	94
North Dakota .....	1,853,000	1,945,000	95
South Dakota .....	3,091,000	2,395,000	129



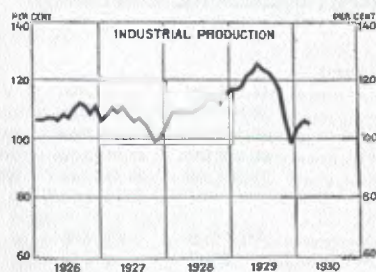
# COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT (Continued)

	Mar., 1930	Mar., 1929	Per Cent Mar. '30 of Mar. '29	Member Bank Deposits (continued)			
<b>Investment Dealers</b>				Minnesota	166,100,000	171,728,000	97
Sales to Banks	4,093,800	1,272,700	322	Montana	59,907,000	66,906,000	90
Sales to Insurance Companies	725,600	1,134,200	64	North Dakota	59,335,000	63,929,000	93
Sales to General Public	5,544,100	5,879,600	94	South Dakota	60,040,000	62,300,000	96
				Wisconsin—26 Cos.	30,036,000	30,905,000	97
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>				<b>Interest Rates<sup>2</sup></b>			
<b>Farm Implements—</b>				Minneapolis Banks	5¼-5½%	5¼-6%	-----
Sales	721,690	459,530	157	Commercial Paper (net to borrower)	4½%	6¼%	-----
Stocks	565,000	537,420	105	Minneapolis Fed. Res. Bank	4%	4¼%	-----
Receivables	548,360	594,030	92	<b>Selected City Member Banks</b>	Apr. 16, 1930	Apr. 17, 1929	
<b>Groceries—</b>				Loans to Customers	\$224,907,000	\$226,687,000	99
Sales	4,058,890	4,037,710	101	Other Invested Funds	144,650,000	154,620,000	94
Stocks	6,883,790	6,857,040	100	Deposits Due to Banks	75,741,000	75,914,000	100
Receivables	5,577,880	5,719,830	98	Public Demand Deposits	29,961,000	21,950,000	136
<b>Hardware—</b>				Other Demand Deposits	168,734,000	170,383,000	99
Sales	2,057,970	2,194,650	94	Time Deposits	131,194,000	131,313,000	100
Stocks	2,947,010	3,065,710	96	Total Deposits	406,253,000	400,998,000	101
Receivables	2,928,620	3,146,470	93	Borrowings at Fed. Res. Bank	0	18,460,000	-----
<b>Shoes—</b>				<b>Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank</b>			
Sales	367,540	513,760	72	Loans to Member Banks	2,439,000	22,567,000	11
Stocks	1,380,760	1,689,030	82	Twin Cities	20,000	18,014,000	1
Receivables	1,202,840	1,256,220	96	Minn., Wis. and Mich.	696,000	2,524,000	28
				N. Dak. and Mont.	1,094,000	1,349,000	81
				South Dakota	649,000	690,000	94
<b>BANKING</b>				Fed. Res. Notes in Circulation	59,577,105	63,954,695	93
<b>Member Bank Deposits</b>				<sup>1</sup> Daily Averages.			
In Cities Over 15,000 pop.	\$440,718,000	\$460,440,000	96	<sup>2</sup> Latest Reported Data.			
In Cities Under 15,000 pop.	438,227,000	460,831,000	95				
Michigan—15 Cos.	62,809,000	65,063,000	97				

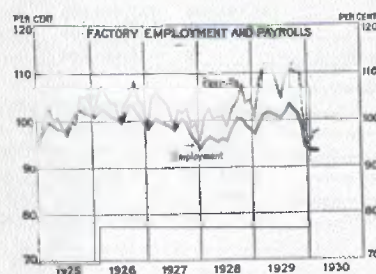
## DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Number of Business Days:	March 1930	February 1930	March 1929	February 1929	Montana			
Minnesota	26	22	25	22	Anaconda	1,744	1,745	2,321
Wisconsin	26	23	26	23	Billings	7,891	6,752	8,359
All Other States in District	26	22	26	22	Bozeman	2,066	1,945	2,279
(000's omitted)					Butte (2 banks)	12,051	11,700	16,920
<b>Michigan</b>					Deer Lodge	900	1,444	1,304
Escanaba (1 bank)	\$ 970	\$ 879	\$ 992	\$ 886	Glendive	1,066	899	1,447
Hancock	1,550	1,250	2,523	1,797	Great Falls	14,116	13,599	15,731
Houghton (1 bank)	607	530	780	728	Harlowton	383	-----	369
Iron Mountain	4,985	3,972	5,412	4,863	Havre (1 bank)	580	454	769
Iron River, Caspian, Stambaugh	1,672	1,491	1,483	1,320	Helena	8,168	7,630	8,432
Manistique (1 bank)	486	377	449	389	Lewistown	2,032	1,920	2,174
Marquette	4,902	5,459	4,009	4,817	Malta	556	587	735
Menominee	3,213	2,858	3,346	3,014	Miles City (1 bank)	1,603	1,359	1,744
Sault Ste. Marie	2,621	2,262	2,678	2,313	<b>North Dakota</b>			
<b>Minnesota</b>					Bismarck	9,760	8,311	-----
Albert Lea	3,056	2,501	3,179	2,729	Devils Lake	1,325	1,240	1,849
Austin (2 banks)	3,649	3,826	4,362	3,624	Dickinson	1,100	1,137	1,411
Bemidji	1,441	1,318	1,456	1,425	Fargo	16,775	14,775	19,552
Chaska	600	503	535	380	Grafton	646	600	512
Chisholm	783	748	671	629	Grand Forks	7,230	5,761	7,426
Cloquet	3,249	3,075	4,471	2,266	Jamestown	2,793	1,974	2,613
Crookston (1 bank)	971	1,336	1,117	984	Mandan	1,691	1,228	1,797
Detroit Lakes	835	677	844	653	Minot	5,827	5,352	6,800
Duluth	68,702	60,049	68,095	60,143	Valley City	1,359	1,145	1,284
Ely	581	560	577	469	Wahpeton	1,094	991	1,186
Faribault	2,468	2,408	2,654	1,717	Williston	1,414	1,291	1,618
Farmington	255	216	245	211	<b>South Dakota</b>			
Fergus Falls	2,902	2,148	3,114	2,500	Aberdeen	5,554	5,265	5,892
Glenwood	458	379	455	386	Brookings (1 bank)	1,150	1,114	1,138
Hutchinson	1,355	1,237	1,585	1,160	Deadwood	817	662	886
Lanesboro	268	253	310	290	Huron	5,663	5,375	5,299
Little Falls	1,045	838	1,035	901	Lead	1,174	1,143	1,271
Luverne	1,290	927	1,285	809	Madison (1 bank)	1,043	880	749
Mankato	6,267	5,367	6,454	5,261	Milbank	525	502	613
Minneapolis	427,295	397,704	429,349	381,074	Mitchell (2 banks)	4,508	4,063	4,223
Moorhead	2,240	1,700	993	687	Mobridge	599	499	625
Morris	607	469	575	463	Pierre	1,178	1,169	1,262
Owatonna	3,180	2,635	3,335	2,553	Rapid City	5,779	5,353	3,715
Park Rapids	458	873	500	360	Sioux Falls	23,527	21,978	21,832
Red Wing	2,305	2,049	2,195	2,176	Watertown	3,961	3,626	4,750
Rochester	5,577	5,426	5,872	5,466	Yankton	2,717	2,414	3,389
St. Cloud (1 bank)	343	309	324	334	<b>Wisconsin</b>			
St. Paul	181,908	160,807	190,062	167,364	Ashland	2,197	2,364	2,218
South St. Paul	32,857	33,698	35,483	27,843	Chippewa Falls	2,355	1,964	2,782
Stillwater	2,225	2,321	2,630	2,196	Eau Claire	7,013	6,453	7,872
Thief River Falls	801	704	720	571	Hudson	774	522	789
Two Harbors	559	461	488	494	La Crosse	12,361	10,971	14,451
Virginia	2,163	1,969	2,785	-----	Merrill (1 bank)	1,490	1,773	1,584
Wabasha	832	830	751	783	Superior	8,191	7,313	8,041
Wadena	992	808	912	753	Total for all Cities Reporting			
Wheaton	776	456	616	-----	Both Years	\$978,537	\$895,249	\$1,010,719
Willmar	1,829	1,400	1,612	1,266				\$877,333
Winona	6,572	6,298	7,351	6,481				
Worthington (1 bank)	1,029	818	786	571				

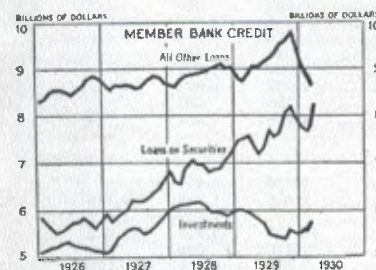




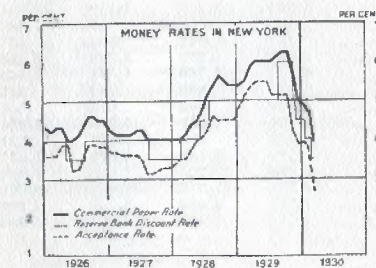
Index number of production of manufactures and minerals combined, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-1925 average=100). Latest figure, March, 105.



Index numbers of factory employment and payrolls, without adjustment for seasonal variations (1923-1925 average=100). Latest figures, March, employment 92.7, payrolls 98.0.



Monthly averages of weekly figures for reporting member banks in leading cities. Latest figures are averages of first 3 weeks in April.



Monthly rates in the open market in New York: commercial paper rate on 4 to 6 month paper. Acceptance rate on 90-day bankers' acceptances. Latest figures are averages of first 20 days in April.

## Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled April 21 by Federal Reserve Board)

Industrial production declined in March, while factory employment and payrolls showed little change, and wholesale prices continued to decline. There was an increase in construction, as is usual at this season. Interest rates continued to decline in the first three weeks of March, but later became somewhat firmer.

**PRODUCTION:** Production in basic industries declined in March, contrary to the usual seasonal trend. The average daily output of steel, coal and copper decreased substantially, while the output of cotton and wool textiles declined at about the usual seasonal rate. Production of automobiles and lumber increased. For the first quarter of the year, taken as a whole, the output of basic industries was considerably smaller than in the unusually active first quarter of 1929 and smaller than in any other first quarter since 1925. In the steel and automobile industries, output for the first three months, though smaller than in 1929, was about the same as in the corresponding months in 1928, while in most of the other major industries it was smaller than in either of the two preceding years. Building contracts awarded increased substantially in March as is usual at this season, according to reports of the F. W. Dodge Corporation. In comparison with a year ago, a large increase in contracts for public works and utilities was more than offset by a decrease in residential building. Average daily awards in the first half of April were somewhat larger than in March, but continued smaller than a year ago.

**EMPLOYMENT:** Factory employment and payrolls, which usually increase during March, changed little from February and continued to be considerably smaller than in other recent years. The number of workers employed in the automobile industry increased somewhat less than is usual at this season and reductions in employment and in earnings were reported in the iron and steel, machinery and carbuilding industries.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Freight carloadings, which have been at low levels in recent months, did not show the usual seasonal increase during March. Department store sales continued in smaller volume than a year ago.

**PRICES:** Wholesale prices, which began to decline last summer, continued to move downward in March to the lowest level since 1916, the decline reflecting chiefly sharp decreases in prices of agricultural products. Prices of imported raw materials, such as sugar, coffee and silk, fluctuated around the low levels reached in February. The price of silver advanced slightly from the low point reached early in March. In the last week in March and the first week in April, there were advances in prices of agricultural products, especially grains and cotton, while the price of steel declined. On April 15th, the price of copper was sharply reduced, and in the same week prices of a number of other important commodities also declined.

**BANK CREDIT:** At member banks in leading cities, total loans and investments increased in the four-week period ending April 16, reflecting a growth of \$184,000,000 in loans on securities and of \$80,000,000 in investments offset, in part, by a further decrease of \$186,000,000 in "all other" loans. Member bank indebtedness at the Reserve banks and total Reserve bank credit declined further between the weeks ending March 15 and April 12, reflecting primarily additional imports of gold from the Orient.

In the third week of March, money rates in the open market reached the lowest levels since 1924, but in the next three weeks were somewhat firmer. Rates on commercial paper declined to a range of 3 3/4-4 per cent on March 24, and remained steady at that level. Rates on 60-90 day bankers' acceptances were reduced to 2 1/2 per cent on March 20, but later advanced to 3 per cent. Bond yields, after declining during most of March, increased gradually in the first half of April. During April, the rediscount rates of the Federal Reserve Banks of Richmond, Atlanta, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Dallas were reduced to 4 per cent, the rate prevailing at all of the Reserve banks, except New York, where the rate is 3 1/2 per cent.