

# MONTHLY REVIEW

## OF

### AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS

#### IN THE

#### NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

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#### DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BUSINESS

The volume of business in the district during March was smaller than in March a year ago. The adjusted index numbers of bank debits, country check clearings and freight carloadings of miscellaneous commodities and less-than-carlot freight were lower in March than at any other time in the current business depression.

Bank debits were 22 per cent smaller in March than in the same month last year. The largest decreases occurred in the more important cities and in the mining and lumber regions. The smallest declines occurred in the agricultural areas. The mixed farming areas have recently been showing more pronounced decreases in bank debits. This was due to the fact that the business depression was reflected later in the strictly mixed farming country than in other parts of the agricultural Northwest. The accompanying table shows this very clearly. The dairying region of central Minnesota and Wisconsin reported a decrease of only 6 per cent between March 1929 and March 1930. During the same pe-

riod, there was actually an increase in bank debits in the southwestern beef and pork region centering around Sioux Falls, South Dakota. These records were more favorable than the 10 per cent decline in the eastern and western half of the spring wheat country. The southeastern beef and pork region was an exception to the relatively more favorable showing of the mixed farming areas, owing partly to the greater proportion of industrial activity at some of the cities.

During the following year (from March 1930 to March 1931), there were decreases of 10 per cent in the dairying region, and 16 per cent in the southwestern beef and pork area, but these decreases were not sufficient to reduce the volume of bank debits in those two areas to as low a level compared with 1929 as had been reached by the spring wheat belt.

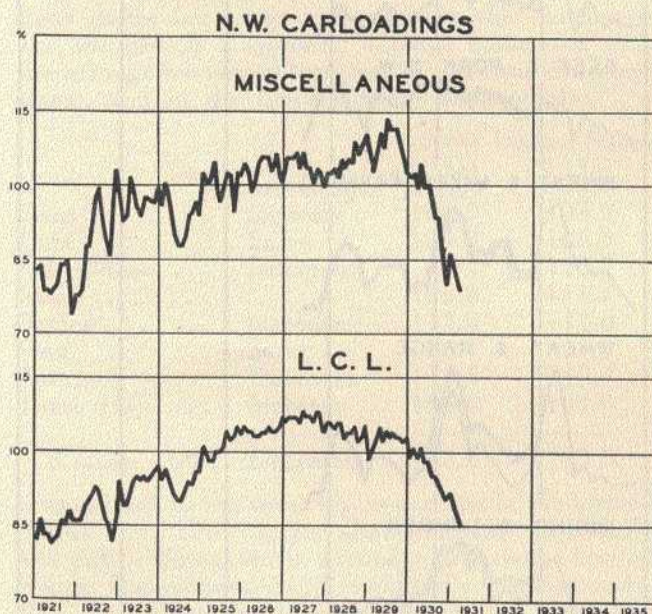
#### Bank Debits in Agricultural Regions

(Indexes for March 1928-31; March 1929 = 100)

Region	March 1928	March 1929	March 1930	March 1931
Dairying and Mixed Farming	97	100	94	85
Beef and Pork, S. E.	91	100	89	79
Beef and Pork, S. W.	93	100	105	88
Wheat and Mixed Farming	93	100	90	83
Wheat and Range	100	100	90	80

The other records of business also showed a predominance of decreases between March 1930 and March 1931. The country check clearings index decreased 19 per cent, freight carloadings decreased 21 per cent, and there were also declines in postal receipts, flour production, livestock receipts, retail furniture sales, country lumber sales, life insurance sales, securities sales and wholesale trade. Increases occurred in building permits and contracts, linseed product shipments, copper output, grain marketings and department store sales. The latter increase was undoubtedly due, in part at least, to the earlier date of Easter this year. A favorable development was a reduction in the number of business failures from 101 in March 1930 to 69 in March 1931.

In the first half of April, business continued to be in smaller volume than a year ago, according to the evidence of bank debits and country check clearings.



Carloadings of Miscellaneous Commodities and Less-than-Carlot Freight in the Northwestern District, adjusted to remove seasonal variations.



## DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

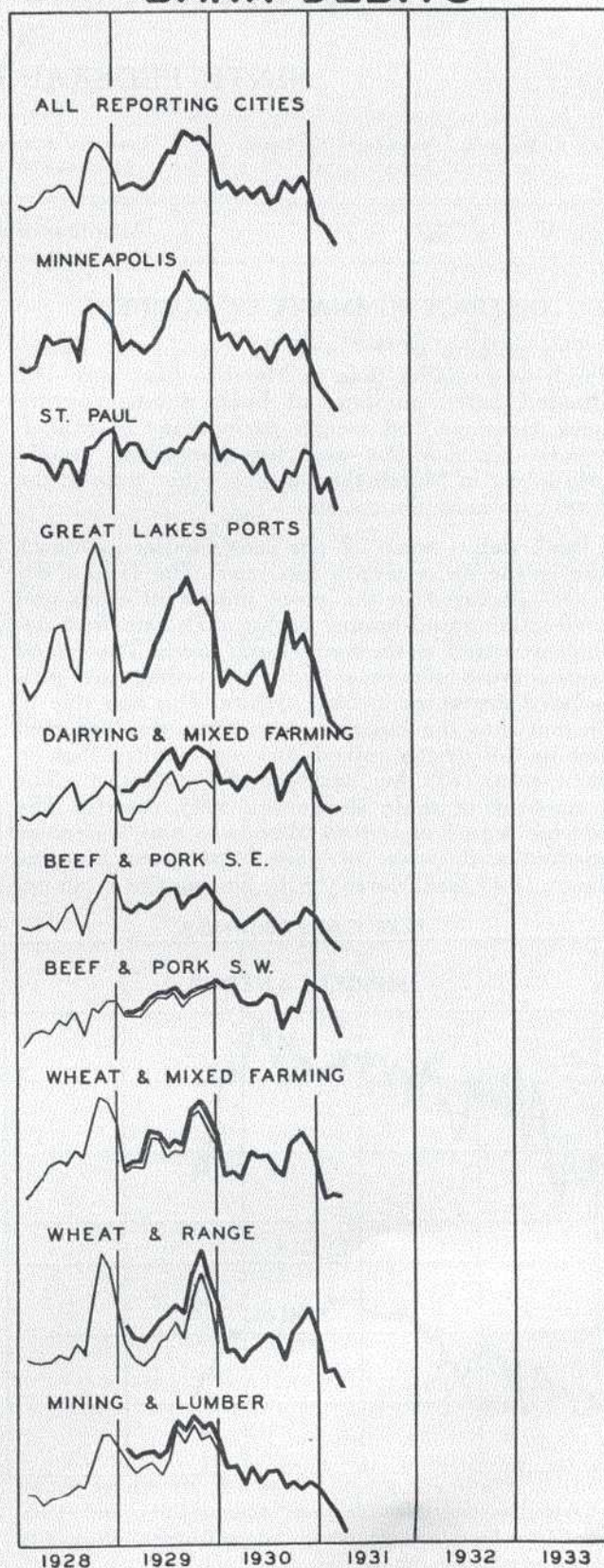
Stocks of agricultural commodities which are important to northwestern producers experienced some favorable developments during March. Stocks of butter in the United States decreased 13 million pounds during March, as compared with an average decrease of 9 million pounds for the month. This large out-of-storage movement occurred in the face of an unusually early spring increase in butter production, and indicates that the consumption of butter has been stimulated by the low prices of the product. The Department of Agriculture estimates that butter consumption in February was 5 per cent greater than in February 1930. As a result of these factors, cold storage holdings of butter in the United States on April 1 were 18 million pounds, as compared with 30½ million pounds a year ago, and 12½ million pounds on the five-year average for the date.

Cold storage stocks of eggs in the United States showed a smaller increase in March than occurred last year, in spite of the heavy volume of production caused by the mild weather. This indicates that the consumption of eggs was large, although there were signs that the rate of consumption slowed down as a result of an increase in the price of eggs which occurred during March.

Stocks of beef, lamb and lard in cold storage were smaller on April 1 than a year ago, and smaller than the five-year average for the date. Stocks of pork were larger on April 1 than a year ago, and larger than the five-year average for the date. However, there was a decrease in cold storage stocks of pork during the month of March, as compared with the usual seasonal increase. As a result, the excess of pork in storage over the five-year average was only 36 million pounds on April 1, as compared with 74 million pounds on March 1.

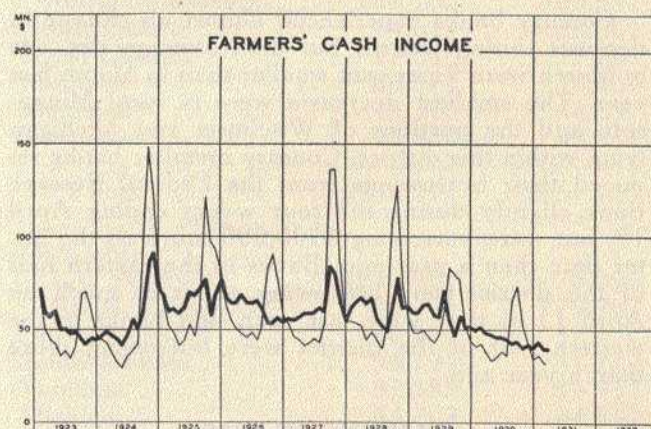
Stocks of wheat in the Northwest terminals continued large, but recent government reports indicate that wheat stocks in the interior were not abnormally large. At Minneapolis and the Head-of-the-Lakes, wheat stocks at the close of March amounted to 73 million bushels, as compared with 60½ million bushels a year ago. Wheat stocks on farms in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana on April 1 totaled 33 million bushels, as compared with 31 million bushels a year ago, and 35 million bushels on the five-year average for the date, according to government estimates. Stocks of wheat in interior elevators and mills in the Northwest on March 1 totaled 21 million bushels, as compared with 35 million bushels a year ago, and 29 million bushels on the five-year average for the date.

Farmers' cash income in March was at the low level of February, and 18 per cent smaller than in March last year, according to estimates for seven important items. Increases in income from wheat and flax were more than offset by decreases in in-

NINTH FED. RES. DISTRICT  
BANK DEBITS



come from hogs, dairy products, potatoes and rye. Prices of all important northwestern farm products were lower in March than a year ago. The price of butter was one cent higher in March than in February.



Farmers' Cash Income in the Ninth Federal Reserve District from Cash Crops, Hogs and Dairy Products. The heavy curve is seasonally adjusted, and the light curve shows changes in farm income without seasonal adjustment.

### PLANTING INTENTIONS

According to the March 1 "Intentions to Plant" figures released by the United States Department of Agriculture, farmers in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota plan to plant their crops this spring, with the exception of flax and potatoes, in accordance with the recommendations made by the United States Department of Agriculture in "The Agricultural Outlook for 1931."

The following table indicates the recommendations made for crops important in the Northwest and the March 1 intended acreage compared with the acreage harvested last year in our four complete states, and in the United States as a whole:

	U. S. D. A. Recommendation	4 States % 1931 of 1930	United States % 1931 of 1930
Corn .....	Increase	106.9	104.9
Oats .....	Same	104.9	106.5
All Wheat....	Decrease	89.2	100.7
Rye .....		106.8	111.7
Barley .....	Increase	113.0	112.0
Flax .....	Same	96.1	95.9
Potatoes .....	Decrease	111.5	110.7
Tame Hay....	Increase	105.0	101.0
8 Crop Total	Decrease	100.8	103.8

Inasmuch as the total wheat acreage in the United States, even allowing for abandonment, apparently will not be decreased in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture's recommendation, and since the total United States tame hay acreage shows an intended increase of only 1 per cent, it appears advisable for farmers in our territory to plant even less spring wheat than they

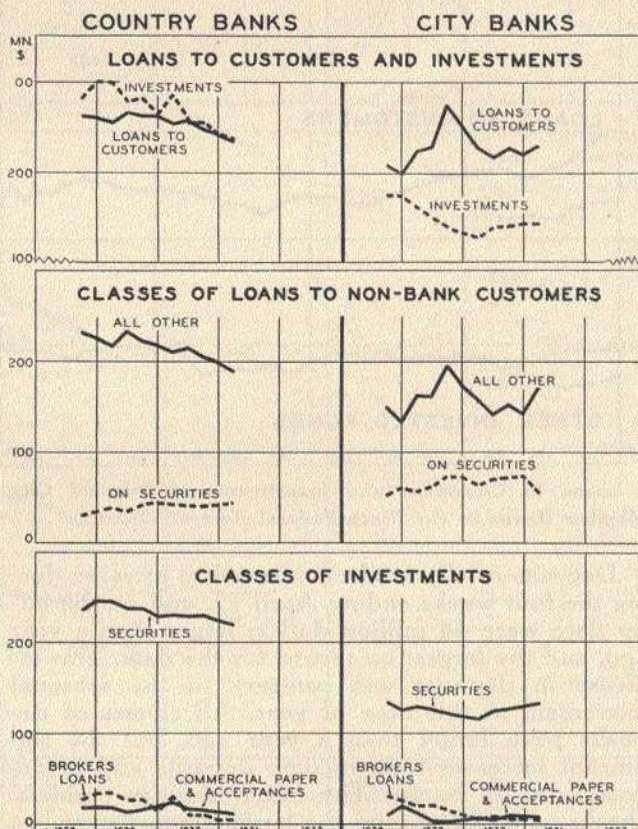
intended to plant on March 1, substituting a tame hay crop for the wheat.

The total acreage intended on March 1 to be devoted to the eight principal crops in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota was practically the same as was harvested last year. In the whole United States, however, the March 1 intentions, together with the acreage actually sown to wheat and rye last fall exceeds the total acreage devoted to the eight crops last year by nearly 4 per cent. If average yields are obtained on the intended increased acreage, it is evident that the crop production in 1931 will again exceed our domestic requirements.

### DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

The bank call of March 25, 1931 disclosed the fact that member bank loans and investments decreased 5 million dollars, or less than 1 per cent, during the first quarter of the year. The decrease was entirely in rural member banks, which reported a reduction of 15 million dollars in loans and investments, whereas city member banks reported an increase of nearly 10 million dollars.

At country banks, both loans to customers and investment holdings decreased during the quarter, but investment holdings continued to be slightly

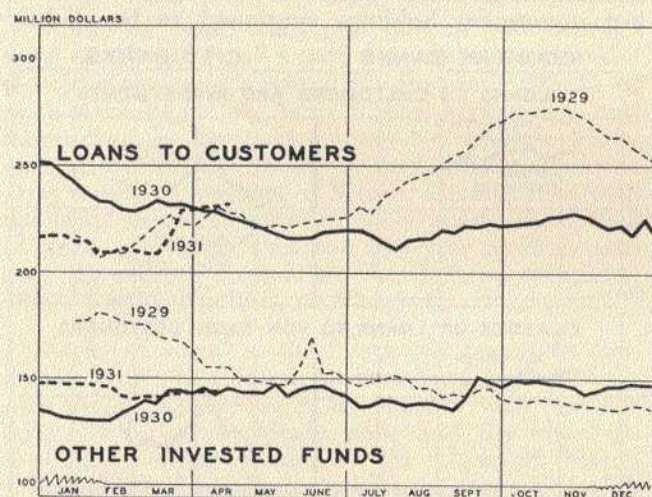


Loans and Investments of City and Country Member Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District on call dates, 1928-31.



larger than loans to customers. Of the customers' loans at country banks, there was an increase in loans on securities and a decrease in real estate loans and other customers' loans. The decrease in investment holdings was partly in securities and partly in commercial paper and acceptances, while brokers' loans increased slightly. At city banks, loans to customers increased 9½ million dollars during the quarter as a result of veterans' loans. Total investment holdings of city member banks remained unchanged during the quarter. Increases in holdings of securities by city banks were offset by decreases in brokers' loans and commercial paper.

Banking developments during the four weeks ending April 15 have been of relatively small significance. At city banks, there was a small increase in loans to customers, bringing the total to the highest level in three years for this time of year. Other invested funds of city banks remained practically unchanged at the same level as a year ago. However, the composition of the investment portfolio of city banks was quite different from a year ago, with security holdings 20 million dollars larger, loans to brokers 16 million dollars smaller, and minor decreases in holdings of commercial paper and acceptances.



Loans to Customers and Investments of Selected City Member Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

Deposits of city banks continued to increase during the four weeks ending April 15, and on the latter date were 44 million dollars larger than a year ago, and the largest on record for the date. This increase in deposits was contrary to the seasonal movement at this time of year. All classes of deposits were larger than a year ago, but the significant increases were in time deposits and in deposits due to banks. The latter includes cashiers' checks outstanding, and the large increase over last year's figures is undoubtedly due to a considerable volume of veterans' loan checks which have not yet been cashed. With the deposits of city banks ma-

terially larger than a year ago, and loans and investments only slightly larger than last year's figures, the city banks had an unusually large volume of idle funds which were being carried temporarily in correspondent bank balances.

Country banks experienced almost no change in deposits during March, but their average deposits in March were 9 per cent smaller than in March last year. The smallest decreases were in rural Minnesota and the portions of Wisconsin and Michigan lying within this district. Country member banks reduced their borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank slightly during the four weeks ending April 15, but were borrowing \$900,000 more on the latter date than a year ago. Banks in the eastern half of the district were borrowing about as much on April 15 as they were last year, and banks in the western half of the district were borrowing more than a year ago.

### BANKING IN 1930

Complete banking figures for the year 1930 are now available for all states and parts of states in the Ninth Federal Reserve District. The number of banks in the district decreased by 235 during 1930, leaving the number at the end of the year 2,118 banks. Deposits decreased 87 million dollars to a total of \$1,547,457,000. Loans decreased 98½ million dollars to a total of \$836,291,000. The deposit total was above the low point of 1921-1922, but loans decreased to the lowest point since 1916. Other significant changes during the year were a reduction of 13 million dollars in investment holdings; a reduction of 7 million dollars in borrowings from other banks; a reduction of 7 million dollars in "other real estate," and an increase of 8 million dollars in cash and balances due from banks.

City banks and country banks in the district experienced opposite deposit trends during 1930. City banks gained 11 million dollars in deposits, whereas country banks lost 98 million dollars in deposits. City banks and country banks both experienced decreases in loans and investments. City banks, on account of their gain in deposits and decrease in loans, were able to pay off practically all of their borrowed money and to increase their cash and balances due from banks materially. Country banks were forced to increase their borrowings slightly and to reduce their cash and balances due from banks.

It is interesting to note that banks in rural Minnesota, which is the most thorough exponent of diversified farming among the northwestern states, suffered a decrease of only 3 per cent in deposits during 1930. In contrast, deposits in North Dakota decreased 18 per cent, in South Dakota 21 per cent, in Montana 9 per cent, in Wisconsin 7 per cent, and in northern Michigan 5 per cent. Minnesota country banks and banks in Montana and northern Michigan increased their investment holdings during 1930.

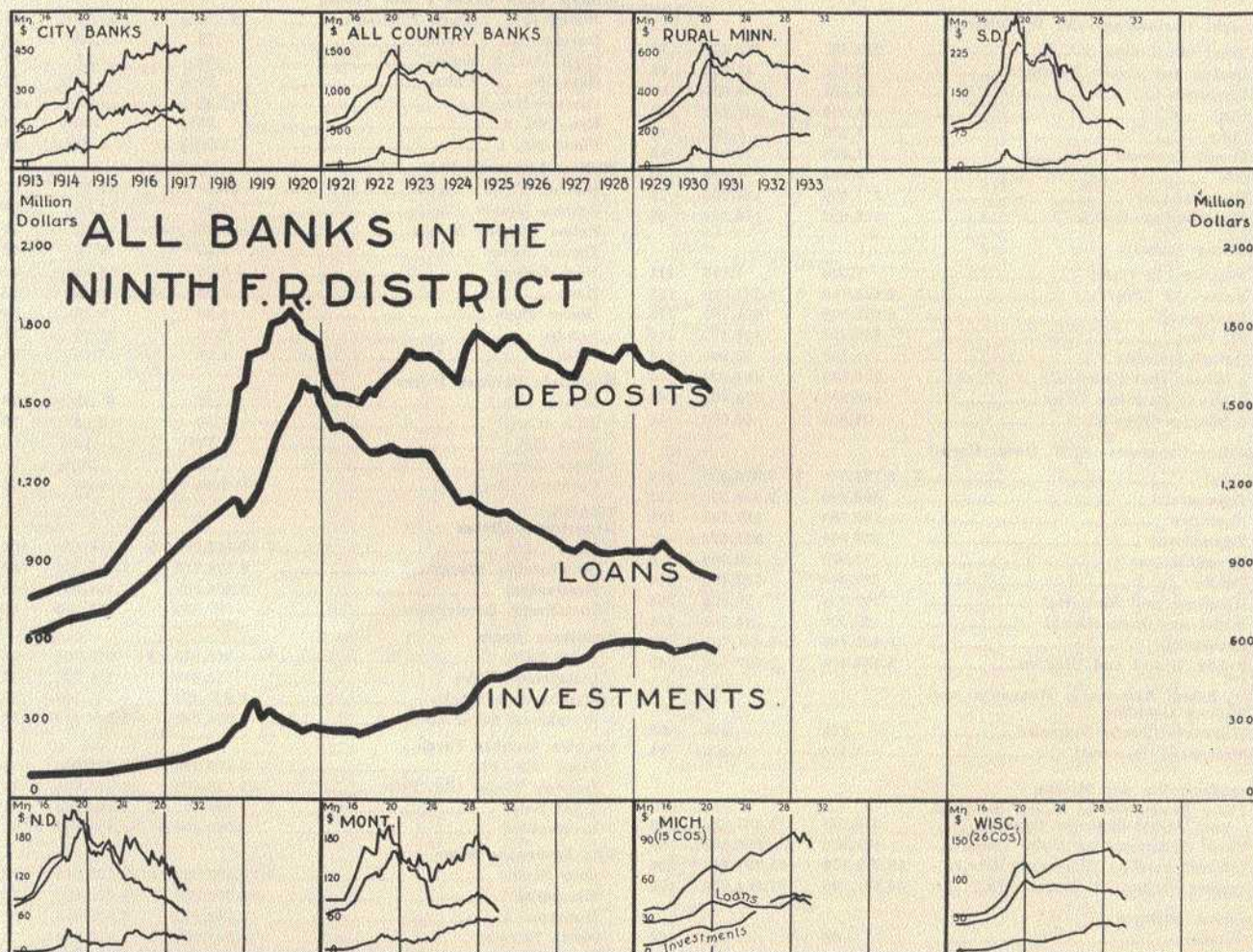


BANK RETURNS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT  
(000's omitted)

December 31, 1930	Loans	Investments	Cash and Due from Banks	Deposits	Borrowings	No. of Banks
<b>Minnesota</b>						
City Banks**	\$225,567	\$166,492	\$119,115	\$ 465,738	\$ 83	25
Rural Minnesota	284,105	183,652	87,704	505,109	3,139	967
North Dakota	64,621	28,367	20,291	100,855	1,389	321
South Dakota	77,646	35,761	24,308	122,886	2,210	328
Montana	68,972	58,468	38,106	149,779	713	174
Michigan*	40,320	44,697	12,614	84,009	1,326	73
Wisconsin*	75,060	40,352	19,033	119,081	1,695	230
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$836,291</b>	<b>\$557,789</b>	<b>\$321,171</b>	<b>\$1,547,457</b>	<b>\$10,555</b>	<b>2,118</b>
<b>December 31, 1929</b>						
<b>Minnesota</b>						
City Banks**	\$238,981	\$178,096	\$100,585	\$ 454,497	\$ 8,056	29
Rural Minnesota	306,255	175,962	86,363	519,321	2,745	1,017
North Dakota	78,994	32,556	23,491	122,386	1,165	412
South Dakota	96,191	41,124	31,523	155,939	1,568	387
Montana	87,555	56,431	37,975	165,336	508	195
Michigan*	43,709	44,542	14,464	88,232	2,070	73
Wisconsin*	83,139	41,258	18,764	128,493	1,598	240
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$934,824</b>	<b>\$569,969</b>	<b>\$313,165</b>	<b>\$1,634,204</b>	<b>\$17,710</b>	<b>2,353</b>

\*Portion of states in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

\*\*Twin City national banks and Minnesota savings banks and trust companies.





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

GENERAL BUSINESS				AGRICULTURE			
			Per Cent Mar. '31 of Mar. '30				Per Cent Mar. '31 of Mar. '30
<b>Bank Debits<sup>1</sup></b>				<b>Farmers' Cash Income</b>			
All Reporting Cities.....	\$ 29,757,800	\$ 38,104,400	78	Total of 7 Items.....	\$ 31,211,000	\$ 38,277,000	82
Minneapolis.....	12,224,000	16,434,000	74	Bread Wheat.....	5,594,000	5,572,000	100
St. Paul.....	5,418,000	6,996,000	77	Durum Wheat.....	3,273,000	2,663,000	123
South St. Paul.....	891,000	1,264,000	70	Rye.....	50,000	262,000	19
Great Lakes Ports.....	2,545,800	3,399,100	75	Flax.....	720,000	409,000	176
Beef and Pork, S. E.....	1,101,400	1,235,100	89	Potatoes.....	1,948,000	4,315,000	45
Beef and Pork, S. W.....	1,438,900	1,718,100	84	Dairy Products.....	11,499,000	13,970,000	82
Dairy and Mixed Farming.....	1,552,900	1,729,000	90	Hogs.....	8,127,000	11,086,000	73
Wheat and Mixed Farming.....	1,863,200	2,012,700	93	<b>Grain Marketings at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)</b>			
Wheat and Range.....	937,300	1,052,800	89	Bread Wheat.....	6,257,000	4,204,000	149
Mining and Lumber.....	1,785,300	2,263,600	79	Durum Wheat.....	4,546,000	2,690,000	169
<b>Electric Power Consumption (K.W.H.)<sup>1,2</sup></b>				Rye.....	141,000	393,000	36
Minn., No. Dak., and So. Dak.....	4,877,000	4,890,000	100	Flax.....	454,000	140,000	324
Montana.....	2,776,000	3,917,000	71	<b>Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)</b>			
<b>Country Check Clearings<sup>1</sup></b>				Wheat.....	73,132,261	60,566,169	121
Total.....	\$ 2,576,200	\$ 3,183,700	81	Corn.....	2,034,832	1,664,601	122
Minnesota.....	934,100	1,170,100	80	Oats.....	6,198,969	9,382,355	66
Montana.....	397,200	537,400	74	Barley.....	4,605,650	5,361,199	86
North and South Dakota.....	683,700	816,300	84	Rye.....	7,205,922	3,682,785	196
Michigan and Wisconsin.....	561,200	659,900	85	Flax.....	1,184,070	708,333	167
<b>Postal Receipts</b>				<b>Livestock Receipts at So. St. Paul (Head)</b>			
Six Cities.....	1,066,320	1,155,110	92	Cattle.....	55,201	58,721	94
Minneapolis.....	557,780	597,030	93	Calves.....	50,869	54,698	93
St. Paul.....	352,620	388,950	91	Hogs.....	205,652	220,258	93
Duluth.....	58,120	66,780	87	Sheep.....	63,623	35,225	181
Three Other Cities.....	97,800	102,350	96	<b>Median Cash Grain Prices (Bus.)</b>			
<b>Freight Carloadings—N. W. District</b>				Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern.....	\$ .76¼	\$1.13¾	67
Total—Excluding L.C.L.....	255,987	322,631	79	Durum—No. 2 Amber.....	.72	.99	73
Grains and Grain Products.....	39,658	41,262	96	Corn—No. 3 Yellow.....	.54	.77	70
Livestock.....	26,033	28,632	91	Oats—No. 3 White.....	.27¾	.39½	70
Coal.....	25,453	22,710	112	Barley—No. 3.....	.38	.55	69
Coke.....	4,358	5,605	78	Rye—No. 2.....	.35½	.66½	53
Forest Products.....	41,470	73,649	56	Flax—No. 1.....	1.58½	2.92¼	54
Ore.....	1,541	1,703	90	<b>Median Livestock Prices (Cwt.)</b>			
Miscellaneous.....	117,474	149,068	79	Butcher Cows.....	\$5.00	\$7.75	65
Merchandise—L.C.L.....	116,683	136,360	86	Butcher Steers.....	7.50	11.00	68
<b>Building Permits</b>				Prime Butcher Steers.....	8.85	12.00	74
Number—18 Cities.....	1,320	1,186	111	Feeder Steers.....	6.25	9.75	64
Value—18 Cities.....	\$ 4,621,100	\$ 2,522,300	183	Veal Calves.....	6.00	10.00	60
Minneapolis.....	2,653,900	824,700	322	Hogs.....	7.00	9.75	72
St. Paul.....	923,400	790,500	117	Heavy Hogs.....	6.85	9.25	74
Duluth-Superior.....	106,100	92,800	114	Lambs.....	8.25	10.00	83
4 Wheat Belt Cities.....	398,200	163,400	244	Ewes.....	4.00	5.10	78
6 Mixed Farming Cities.....	500,900	570,300	88	<b>Wholesale Produce Prices</b>			
4 Mining Cities.....	38,600	80,600	48	Butter (Lb.).....	\$ .26	\$ .33½	78
<b>Building Contracts (F. W. Dodge Corp.)</b>				Milk (Cwt.).....	1.50	2.00	75
Total.....	\$ 9,765,500	\$ 9,392,300	104	Hens (Lb.).....	.17½	.19½	90
Commercial.....	463,700	3,856,200	12	Eggs (Doz.).....	.15	.21¼	71
Factories.....	260,700	127,800	204	Potatoes (Bu.).....	1.05	1.65	64
Educational.....	337,100	825,600	41	<b>TRADE</b>			
Hospitals, etc.....	12,000	139,000	9	<b>Department Stores</b>			
Public.....	337,000	192,400	175	Sales.....	\$ 3,314,390	\$ 3,199,790	104
Religious and Memorial.....	192,000	70,000	274	Merchandise Stocks.....	6,853,380	7,700,880	89
Social and Recreational.....	82,500	40,500	204	Receivables.....	3,453,020	3,303,010	105
Residential.....	1,422,100	1,441,500	99	Instalment Receivables.....	727,650	821,700	89
Public Works and Utilities.....	6,658,400	2,699,300	247	<b>Furniture Stores</b>			
<b>Real Estate Activity in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties</b>				Total Sales.....	\$ 268,370	\$ 279,300	96
Warranty Deeds Recorded.....	750	806	93	Instalment Sales.....	153,690	211,740	73
Mortgages Recorded.....	1,153	1,273	91	Merchandise Stocks.....	1,447,430	1,727,340	84
<b>Manufacturing and Mining</b>				Instalment Receivables.....	1,884,580	2,262,310	83
Flour Production at Mpls., St. Paul, and Duluth-Superior (bbls.).....	913,181	1,247,217	73	<b>Country Lumber Yards</b>			
Flour Shipments at Mpls. (bbls.).....	839,828	990,207	85	Sales (Bd. Ft.).....	5,236,000	6,657,000	79
Linseed Product Shipments (lbs.).....	29,379,179	15,997,463	184	Lumber Stocks (Bd. Ft.).....	81,158,000	93,434,000	87
Copper Output (5 firms) (lbs.).....	34,801,100	31,954,600	109	Total Sales.....	\$ 985,200	\$ 1,215,400	81
<b>Business Failures</b>				Receivables.....	3,064,200	3,403,000	90
Number.....	69	101	68	<b>Life Insurance Sales</b>			
Liabilities.....	\$ 1,637,885	\$ 1,100,443	149	Four States.....	\$ 22,583,000	\$ 29,552,000	76
				Minnesota.....	16,740,000	21,972,000	76
				Montana.....	2,148,000	2,636,000	81
				North Dakota.....	1,340,000	1,853,000	72
				South Dakota.....	2,355,000	3,091,000	76



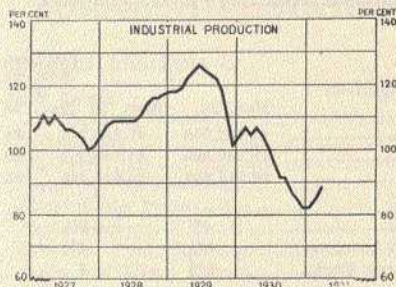
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT  
(Continued)

Investment Dealers	Per Cent			Member Bank Deposits (continued)	Per Cent		
	Mar. '31	Mar. '30	Mar. '30		Mar. '31	Mar. '30	Mar. '30
Sales to Banks.....	4,246,000	4,093,800	104	North Dakota .....	41,482,000	47,388,000	88
Sales to Insurance Companies.....	670,600	430,100	156	South Dakota .....	48,286,000	54,883,000	88
Sales to General Public.....	4,553,700	5,684,900	80	Wisconsin-26 Cos. ....	28,005,000	30,036,000	93
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>				<b>Interest Rates<sup>2</sup></b>			
Farm Implements—				Minneapolis Banks .....	4½	5¼-5½	
Sales .....	\$ 227,650	\$ 573,170	40	Commercial Paper (net to borrower) ..	3¼	4½	
Stocks .....	667,710	667,960	100	Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank....	3½	4	
Groceries—				<b>Selected City Member Banks</b>	Apr. 15, '31	Apr. 16, '30	
Sales .....	\$ 3,514,340	\$ 3,942,650	89	Loans to Customers.....	\$ 231,441	\$ 224,907	103
Stocks .....	6,155,300	6,797,860	91	Other Invested Funds.....	148,007	144,650	102
Receivables .....	4,360,190	4,845,930	90	Deposits Due to Banks.....	94,394	75,741	125
Hardware—				Public Demand Deposits.....	30,494	29,961	102
Sales .....	\$ 1,477,190	\$ 1,911,380	77	Other Demand Deposits.....	171,244	168,734	101
Stocks .....	2,932,180	3,132,000	94	Time Deposits .....	151,595	131,194	116
Receivables .....	2,056,670	2,450,360	84	Total Deposits .....	450,068	406,253	111
Shoes—				Borrowings at Fed. Reserve Bank....	0	0	0
Sales .....	\$ 288,410	\$ 367,540	78	<b>Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank</b>			
Stocks .....	792,930	1,380,760	57	Loans to Member Banks.....	3,416,000	2,494,000	137
Receivables .....	821,330	1,202,840	68	Twin Cities .....	0	20,000	0
<b>BANKING</b>				Minn., Wis. and Mich.....	712,000	721,000	99
<b>Member Bank Deposits</b>				N. Dak. and Mont.....	1,308,000	1,097,000	119
In Cities Over 15,000 pop.....	\$464,328,000	\$464,427,000	100	South Dakota .....	1,396,000	656,000	213
In Cities Under 15,000 pop.....	388,378,000	424,702,000	91	Fed. Res. Notes in Circulation.....	48,358,900	59,577,100	81
Michigan—15 Cos. ....	67,539,000	71,003,000	95	Member Bank Reserve Deposits.....	47,473,800	52,968,800	90
Minnesota .....	150,059,000	161,485,000	93	<sup>1</sup> Daily Averages.			
Montana .....	53,007,000	59,907,000	88	<sup>2</sup> Latest Reported Data.			

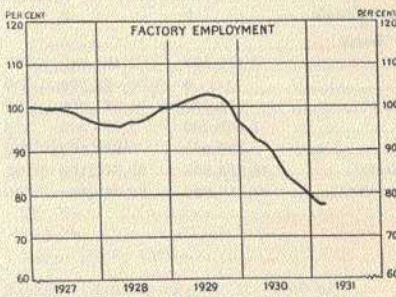
## BANK DEBITS

Number of Business Days:	March	February	March	February	Montana				
	1931	1931	1930	1930					
Wisconsin .....	26	23	26	23	Anaconda .....	\$ 1,561	\$ 1,315	\$ 1,744	\$ 1,745
All Other States in District.....	26	22	26	22	Billings .....	7,375	6,206	7,891	6,752
					Bozeman .....	2,024	1,785	2,066	1,945
					Butte (2 Banks).....	8,832	10,417	12,051	11,700
<b>Michigan</b>	(000's omitted)				Deer Lodge .....	759	1,494	900	1,444
Escanaba (1 Bank).....	\$ 693	\$ 709	\$ 970	\$ 879	Glendive .....	927	856	1,066	899
Hancock .....	1,214	1,018	1,550	1,250	Great Falls .....	11,463	10,044	14,116	13,599
Houghton (1 Bank).....	429	355	607	530	Harlowton .....	283	244	383	339
Iron Mountain .....	3,847	3,056	4,985	3,972	Hayre .....	1,456	1,103	1,660	1,373
Iron River, Caspian & Stambaugh ..	1,442	1,185	1,672	1,491	Helena .....	6,234	5,945	8,168	7,630
Manistique (1 Bank).....	460	412	486	377	Lewistown .....	1,530	1,352	2,032	1,920
Marquette .....	3,976	3,311	4,902	4,459	Malta .....	419	400	556	537
Menominee .....	2,335	2,024	3,213	2,858	Miles City (1 Bank).....	1,339	1,223	1,603	1,359
Sault Ste. Marie.....	2,172	2,000	2,621	2,262	<b>North Dakota</b>				
<b>Minnesota</b>					Bismarck .....	\$ 11,482	\$ 9,662	\$ 9,760	\$ 8,811
Albert Lea .....	\$ 2,794	\$ 2,413	\$ 3,056	\$ 2,501	Devils Lake .....	1,310	1,116	1,325	1,240
Austin (1 Bank).....	3,073	3,273	3,649	3,826	Dickinson .....	1,250	1,123	1,100	1,137
Bemidji (2 Banks).....	927	918	1,152	1,088	Fargo .....	15,408	12,561	16,763	14,175
Chaska .....	488	425	600	503	Grafton .....	504	514	646	600
Chisholm .....	750	862	783	748	Grand Forks .....	5,638	5,187	7,230	5,761
Cloquet .....	2,784	1,754	3,249	3,075	Jamestown .....	2,214	1,972	2,793	1,974
Crookston .....	1,139	1,208	1,275	1,336	Mandan .....	1,529	1,355	1,691	1,228
Detroit Lakes .....	834	662	835	677	Minot .....	5,064	4,220	5,827	5,352
Duluth .....	50,287	46,314	68,702	60,049	Valley City .....	1,255	1,121	1,359	1,145
Ely .....	581	423	581	560	Wahpeton .....	1,186	870	1,094	991
Faribault (1 Bank).....	1,018	809	1,182	993	Williston .....	1,171	1,321	1,414	1,291
Farmington .....	220	187	255	216	<b>South Dakota</b>				
Fergus Falls .....	2,491	2,036	2,902	2,148	Aberdeen .....	\$ 5,049	\$ 4,406	\$ 5,554	\$ 5,265
Glenwood .....	405	379	458	379	Brookings (1 Bank).....	1,077	833	1,150	1,114
Hutchinson .....	1,203	1,020	1,355	1,237	Deadwood .....	632	642	817	662
Lakefield (2 Banks).....	367	316	469	436	Huron .....	5,392	4,907	5,663	5,375
Lanesboro .....	365	293	368	253	Lead .....	1,130	1,070	1,174	1,143
Little Falls .....	886	808	1,045	838	Madison .....	827	328	1,043	880
Luverne .....	740	708	1,290	927	Mitchell (2 Banks).....	3,626	3,163	4,508	4,063
Mankato .....	5,811	4,836	6,267	5,367	Pierre .....	520	303	599	499
Minneapolis .....	317,830	284,905	427,295	397,704	Rapid City .....	1,157	992	1,178	1,169
Moorhead .....	1,796	1,288	2,240	1,700	Sioux Falls .....	3,152	2,948	3,779	3,353
Morris .....	511	432	607	469	Watertown .....	19,278	18,681	23,527	21,978
Owatonna .....	2,963	2,477	3,180	2,635	Yankton .....	3,260	3,291	3,961	3,626
Park Rapids .....	\$ 383	\$ 286	\$ 458	\$ 373		2,454	2,067	2,499	2,217
Red Wing .....	1,946	1,712	2,305	2,049	<b>Wisconsin</b>				
Rochester .....	5,224	4,785	5,577	5,426	Ashland .....	\$ 1,932	\$ 1,801	\$ 2,197	\$ 2,364
St. Cloud (1 Bank).....			343	309	Chippewa Falls .....	1,907	1,569	2,355	1,964
St. Paul .....	140,881	136,694	181,908	160,807	Eau Claire .....	6,879	5,506	7,013	6,458
South St. Paul.....	23,176	23,774	32,857	33,698	Hudson .....	719	518	774	522
Stillwater .....	1,977	1,943	2,225	2,321	La Crosse .....	11,384	9,735	12,861	10,971
Thief River Falls.....	715	618	801	704	Merrill (1 Bank).....	1,205	1,204	1,490	1,773
Two Harbors .....	404	445	559	461	Superior .....	6,730	5,756	8,191	7,313
Virginia .....	1,795	1,652	2,163	1,969	<b>Total for All Cities Reporting</b>				
Wabasha .....	782	630	832	830	Both Years .....	\$774,210	\$706,922	\$989,744	\$904,071
Wadena (2 Banks).....	614	453	666	515					
Wheaton .....	482	430	578	456					
Willmar .....	1,408	1,220	1,829	1,400					
Winona .....	5,865	5,315	6,572	6,298					
Worthington (1 Bank).....	714	641	1,029	818					





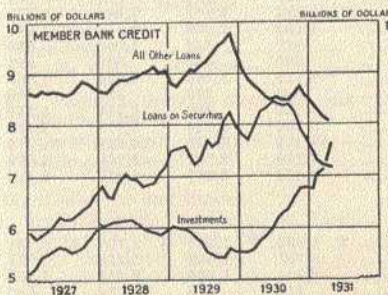
Index number of industrial production, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average=100.)



Federal Reserve Board's index of factory employment with adjustment for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average=100.)



Indexes of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1926=100.)



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

## Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled April 23 by Federal Reserve Board)

Further increase in industrial activity was reported for the month of March, which usually shows little change from February. Factory employment and payrolls increased by the usual seasonal amount between the middle of February and the middle of March. The volume of building contracts awarded in March showed considerable growth, largely of a seasonal nature. The general level of wholesale prices continued to decline.

**PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT:** Industrial production increased 2 per cent further in March, and the Federal Reserve Board's seasonally adjusted index stood at 88 per cent of the 1923-1925 average, compared with 104 per cent in March 1930. There was a considerable increase in the daily average output of steel which ordinarily shows little change from February to March, while production of automobiles increased by about the usual seasonal percentage. Activity at cotton mills increased slightly contrary to the ordinary seasonal movement, and there was a substantial increase in the output of shoes. In the first half of April, steel mill activity declined.

The number of men employed at factories increased between the middle of February and the middle of March by about the usual seasonal amount. In the iron and steel and automobile industries somewhat larger than usual increases were shown, and at textile mills and shoe factories, where the number employed ordinarily declines in March, substantial increases in employment were reported. In the agricultural machinery and petroleum refining industries and at car-building shops employment declined contrary to the usual seasonal trend; and in the automobile tire and fertilizer industries employment increased less than usual.

The volume of building contracts awarded in March increased considerably from February, according to the F. W. Dodge Corporation, reflecting in large part developments of a seasonal character. Contracts for residential building increased seasonally, and were in about the same volume as a year ago, while contracts for public works and utilities rose to the high level of March 1930.

**AGRICULTURE:** Definite improvement in moisture conditions in the drought area was an important development in March and the first week of April. Supplies of moisture in the top soil have been replenished, but the sub soil continued to be dry in certain areas, particularly in the spring wheat belt. Department of Agriculture estimates, based on April 1 conditions, indicate a winter wheat crop of 644,000,000 bushels, about 100,000,000 bushels larger than the five-year average, and 40,000,000 bushels more than last year. Intentions to plant, as reported March 1, indicate a considerable reduction in spring wheat acreage, and an increase in acreage to be planted to corn.

**DISTRIBUTION:** The volume of freight carloadings increased seasonally in March and department store sales increased during the Easter season by about the usual amount.

**PRICES:** The general level of wholesale commodity prices continued to decline in March, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, reflecting chiefly reductions in the prices of petroleum products, bituminous coal and textile products. Prices of farm products increased slightly, and there was a substantial advance in the price of hides. In the first half of April, prices of many commodities, including cattle, cotton, rubber and coffee, declined, while the price of wheat advanced.

**BANK CREDIT:** Loans and investments of member banks in leading cities, which had increased in the middle of March as the result of treasury operations, showed a decline for every week between March 18 and April 8, but on the latter date were still \$270,000,000 larger than four weeks earlier. Investment holdings of these banks were at a new high figure on April 8, owing largely to an increase in their holdings of United States government obligations, while loans on securities as well as all other loans showed a decline for the four-week period.

The volume of Reserve bank credit has fluctuated since the middle of February around a level of \$925,000,000. Continued imports of gold, deposited by member banks with the Reserve banks, have provided the member banks with sufficient funds to meet an increase in the demand for currency. United States government security holdings of the Reserve banks have remained at the level of \$600,000,000 established last summer, while discounts for member banks have continued to decline and holdings of purchased acceptances have fluctuated in response to temporary changes in the demand for Reserve bank credit.

Money rates showed little change from the middle of March to the middle of April. Rates on commercial paper declined further from a prevailing rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to a range of  $2\frac{1}{4}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, while bond yields increased slightly.