

MONTHLY REVIEW

OF AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

JOHN R. MITCHELL, Chairman of the Board
and Federal Reserve Agent

CURTIS L. MOSHER F. M. BAILEY
Assistant Federal Reserve Agents

OLIVER S. POWELL
Statistician

Vol. IV (Serial
No. 172)

Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 29, 1929

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BUSINESS

The volume of check payments in the district was larger during March than in the corresponding month last year. The increase amounted to 10 per cent in both the weekly and monthly reporting groups combined. This increase was about as large as was shown in January and February. The fact that Easter fell on March 31 this year and in April last year undoubtedly advanced the date of Easter buying. The effect of this on the debits to individual accounts is unknown, but it must have been a factor of some importance. Of the seventy cities for which comparative figures for 1928 are available, twenty-six cities showed increases in debits over the same period of last year of 10 per cent or more; twenty-six other cities showed increases of less than 10 per cent; eleven cities showed decreases of less than 10 per cent and seven cities showed decreases of more than 10 per cent. The only area which showed a marked decrease in debits from last year was in the central portion of North Dakota and South Dakota, extending from Dickinson, North Dakota on the northwest to Brookings, South Dakota on the southeast.

Daily Averages of Debits to Individual Accounts Shown as Percentages of the Corresponding Months in 1928

	January 1929	February 1929	March 1929
Duluth	101	115	103
Minneapolis	111	118	112
St. Paul	100	106	107
South St. Paul	88	86	120
Other Minnesota ...	105	102	108
Michigan	108	118	119
Montana	123	109	113
North Dakota	132	116	110
South Dakota	115	106	104
Wisconsin	102	103	111
Ninth District	108	111	110

Aside from the clear record of increase shown by debits to individual accounts, the record of business volume in the district for March presented a mixture of increases and decreases as compared with March last year. The country check clearings index was 10 per cent larger in March than in the same month last year. The increase in this index

was greatest in the eastern half of the district. A small increase was also shown in department store sales in the larger cities. Decreases of varying amounts were reported in country lumber sales, security sales, wholesale trade, freight carloadings, flour and linseed product shipments and building permits and contracts. Business failures were only thirty-nine in number during March, as compared with eighty-three in March last year. There has not been a smaller failure record in this district in any month since July 1921.

The volume of check payments during the first half of April was exactly equal to the volume in the same period last year, according to the record of debits to individual accounts at seventeen cities and our country check clearings index. The failure to show an increase is undoubtedly due, in part, to the fact that Easter buying occurred in April last year and in March this year. The daily average of building contracts awarded in the first nineteen days of April amounted to \$400,500, as compared with the daily average for the whole month of April 1928 of \$274,600, according to the Graphic Review of the F. W. Dodge Corporation.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

A sharp seasonal decrease in deposits during the six weeks ending April 17 which amounted to 26 million dollars was shown by city member banks in the district. The major part of this decrease, or 17 million dollars, was in deposits due to banks which were lower this spring than in either of the two preceding years for which records are available. The remainder of the deposit loss was accounted for by decreases of 4 million dollars in public demand deposits, 4 million dollars in other demand deposits and 1 million dollars in time deposits. On the asset side of the balance sheet of these banks, loans decreased 6 million dollars, investments decreased 3 million dollars, reserves with the Federal Reserve Bank decreased 3 million dollars and balances with correspondent banks decreased 7 million dollars. These banks increased their borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank 6½ millions during this period. Borrowings by city member banks on April 17 totaled more than 18 million dollars and were higher than on any other report date since 1921. The lending rates quoted by Minneapolis commercial banks did not change during the month ending

DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS IN THE
NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	March	February	March	February
Number of Business Days:	1929	1929	1928	1928
Minnesota	25	22	27	23
Wisconsin	26	23	27	24
Other States	26	22	27	23
	(000's omitted)			
Michigan				
Esacnaba (1 Bank).....	\$ 992	\$ 835	\$ 945	\$ 835
Hancock	2,523	1,797	1,269	1,332
Houghton (1 Bank).....	780	728	.....	.....
Iron Mountain	5,412	4,363	4,684	3,568
Iron River, Caspian, Stambaugh	1,483	.....	1,601	.....
Manistique (1 Bank).....	449	389	.....	.....
Marquette	4,009	4,317	3,691	4,144
Menominee	3,346	3,014	3,279	2,924
Minnesota				
Albert Lea	3,179	2,729	3,230	2,903
Austin (2 Banks)	3,462	2,624	.....	.....
Austin (1 Bank)	1,230	981	1,004	775
Benson (1 Bank)	463	361	488	311
Chaska	535	380	576	392
Chisholm	671	629	631	631
Cloquet	4,471	2,266	2,895	2,604
Crookston (1 Bank).....	1,117	984	1,029	963
Detroit Lakes	844	653	.....	.....
Duluth	68,095	60,143	71,718	54,730
Ely	577	469	649	.....
Glenwood	455	386	524	377
Hutchinson	1,585	1,160	1,404	1,117
Little Falls	1,035	901	1,161	907
Mankato	6,454	5,261	6,851	5,699
Minneapolis	429,349	381,074	412,882	338,117
Morris	575	463	616	489
Owatonna	3,335	2,553	3,137	2,548
Park Rapids	500	360	412	426
Red Wing	2,195	2,176	2,589	2,673
Rochester	5,872	5,466	6,196	5,919
St. Cloud (1 Bank).....	324	.....	335	.....
St. Paul	190,062	167,364	191,946	164,737
South St. Paul	35,488	27,843	32,074	33,777
Stillwater	2,630	2,196	.....	.....
Thief River Falls.....	720	571	750	665
Virginia	2,785	.....	.....	.....
Wabasha	751	783	727	662
Wadena	912	753	974	818
Wheaton	616	.....	.....	.....
Willmar	1,512	1,272	1,595	.....
Winona	7,351	6,481	8,210	5,988
Worthington (1 Bank).....	786	571	785	591
Montana				
Billings	8,359	6,780	9,535	7,548
Bozeman	2,279	2,395	2,276	2,195
Butte (2 Banks)	16,920	13,157	10,671	10,843
Deer Lodge	1,304	1,284	1,482	777
Glendive	1,447	1,006	1,381	1,204
Great Falls	15,731	13,420	15,294	14,154
Helena	8,432	8,128	8,748	7,063
Lewistown	2,174	1,933	2,375	2,356
Miles City (1 Bank).....	1,744	1,443	1,736	1,585
North Dakota				
Bismarck	4,092	3,570	3,406	3,025
Devils Lake	1,849	1,433	1,741	1,503
Dickinson	1,411	1,336	1,638	1,331
Fargo	19,552	17,908	17,404	14,586
Grand Forks	7,426	6,433	7,760	6,461
Jamestown	2,613	2,056	2,614	2,392
Mandan	1,797	1,251	1,770	1,296
Minot	6,800	5,640	6,837	5,053
Wahpeton	1,186	899	1,018	913
Williston	1,618	1,375	1,467	1,342
South Dakota				
Aberdeen	5,892	4,995	7,831	5,223
Brookings (1 Bank).....	1,138	860	1,396	1,196
Huron	5,299	4,363	6,320	5,326
Lead	1,271	1,098	1,126	1,088
Madison (1 Bank)	749	625	.....	.....
Mitchell (2 Banks)	4,223	3,546	4,471	3,736
Mobridge	625	581	746	654
Pierre	1,262	1,071	1,775	1,421
Rapid City	3,715	3,264	2,796	3,163
Sioux Falls	21,832	18,307	19,574	16,708
Watertown	4,750	4,399	4,632	3,946
Yankton (3 Banks)	2,721	2,306	2,050	1,625
Wisconsin				
Ashland	2,218	2,011	.....	.....
Chippewa Falls	2,773	2,291	3,529	3,032
Eau Claire	7,872	6,598	.....	.....
Hudson	789	479	768	623
La Crosse	14,451	11,419	12,123	10,718
Merrill (1 Bank)	1,584	.....	1,322	.....
Superior	8,041	7,223	8,027	7,513

April 15, but the borrowers' rate quoted by commercial paper brokers was marked up $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent to $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent during the month of March. This was the highest borrowers' rate reported since the fall of 1921.

Country bank conditions are well indicated by the fact that balances with city correspondent banks were low, as stated above, and that there was a sharp seasonal decrease in such balances this spring. The average demand and time deposits of country member banks did not show the customary seasonal rise during March and were only 1 per cent larger than a year ago in March. Borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank by country member banks increased 2 million dollars in the six weeks ending April 17 and amounted to $4\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars on that date. This was a higher figure than was reported at any time in 1928 and also a higher figure than was reported at this time in the spring of any year since 1924.

The call for condition reports as of March 27, 1929 afforded another opportunity for tabulation of reports from the one hundred and seventeen country member banks which are used in this district to indicate country banking trends. Deposits at these one hundred and seventeen banks decreased 2 per cent between December 31 and March 27, but deposits were 2 per cent larger than on the date of the spring call in 1928. It will be recalled that there was no decrease in deposits at country banks during the spring of 1928. This was a very unusual happening and the decline which occurred in the current year was undoubtedly a much more normal development.

Changes in the the various classes of deposits were significant. Deposits due to banks showed a shrinkage of 9 per cent since the end of December and of 33 per cent since February, 1928. State, county and municipal deposits increased 18 per cent during the three months following December 31 and showed an increase of 59 per cent over the total in February 1928. Commercial and individual deposits decreased 4 per cent during the December-March period, but increased 2 per cent in the thirteen months since February, 1928.

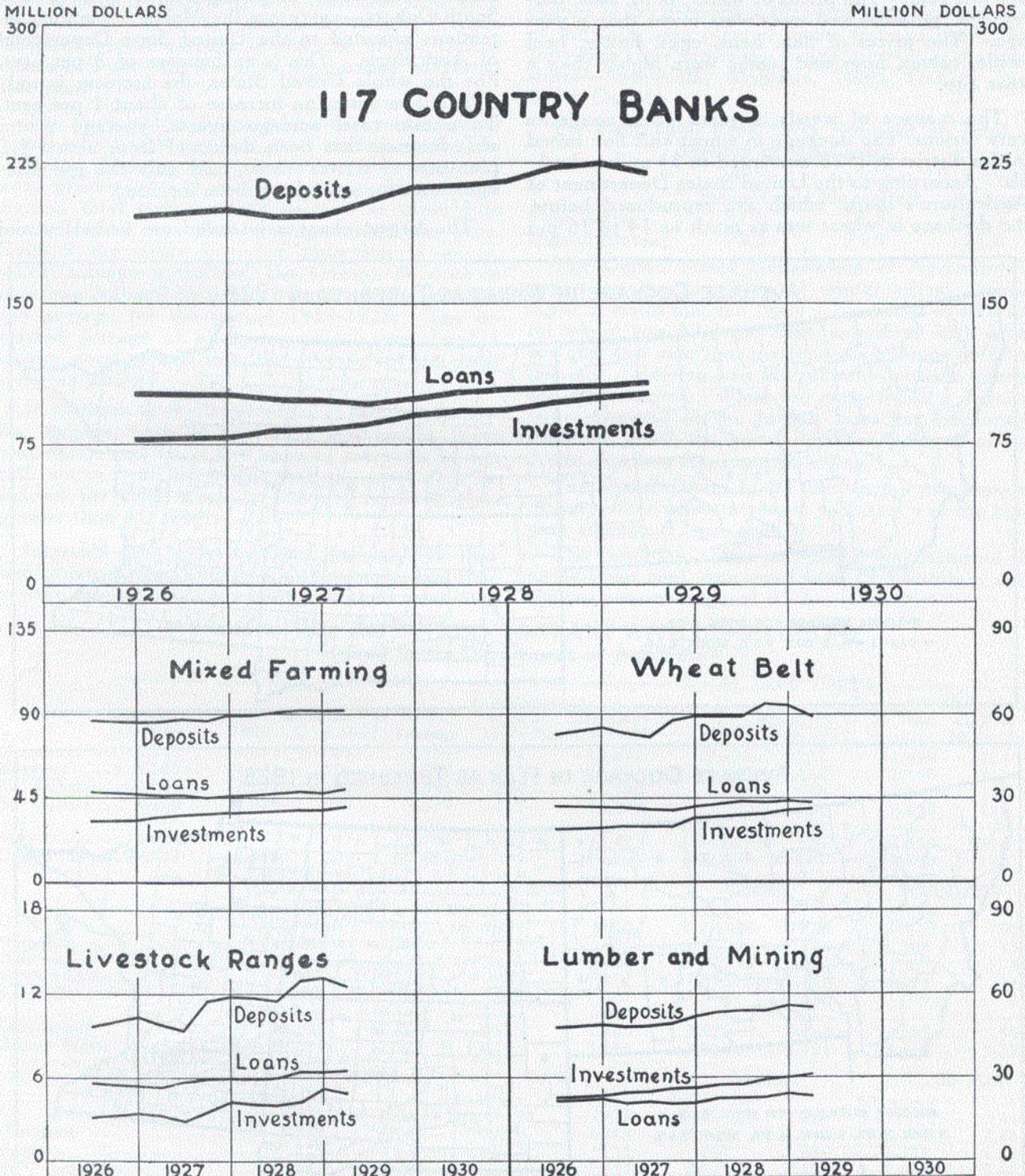
Loans of these one hundred and seventeen banks have increased continuously since October, 1927. Since loans to others than local customers are included in the general heading of "Loans and Discounts" by these banks, it is not possible to state whether or not this same trend of increase in loans is true of loans to the rural portion of the district. Investment holdings of these banks have increased without exception between all of the call dates since this index began on June 30, 1926.

In the various economic regions of the district, the changes at representative banks between December and March were quite dissimilar. Decreases in deposits occurred in the wheat belt and on the livestock ranges. Deposits were practically stationary in the mixed farming region and in the lumber and mining areas. Investment holdings increased as compared with the December report in all of the areas except the livestock ranges where there was a seasonal decrease. Loans increased in the mixed farming region and on the livestock ranges and decreased in the wheat belt and in the lumber and mining areas.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

Farm income from cash crops and hogs combined was estimated to be 16 per cent smaller in March than in the same month last year. The re-

cent increase in the price of hogs brought the median price at South St. Paul up to \$11.25 per hundredweight in March, as compared with \$7.90 per hundredweight a year ago. As a result, the income from the sale of hogs during March was estimated



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 March 27, 1929. The small charts show the country banking trends of these selected banks grouped according to economic regions in the district.

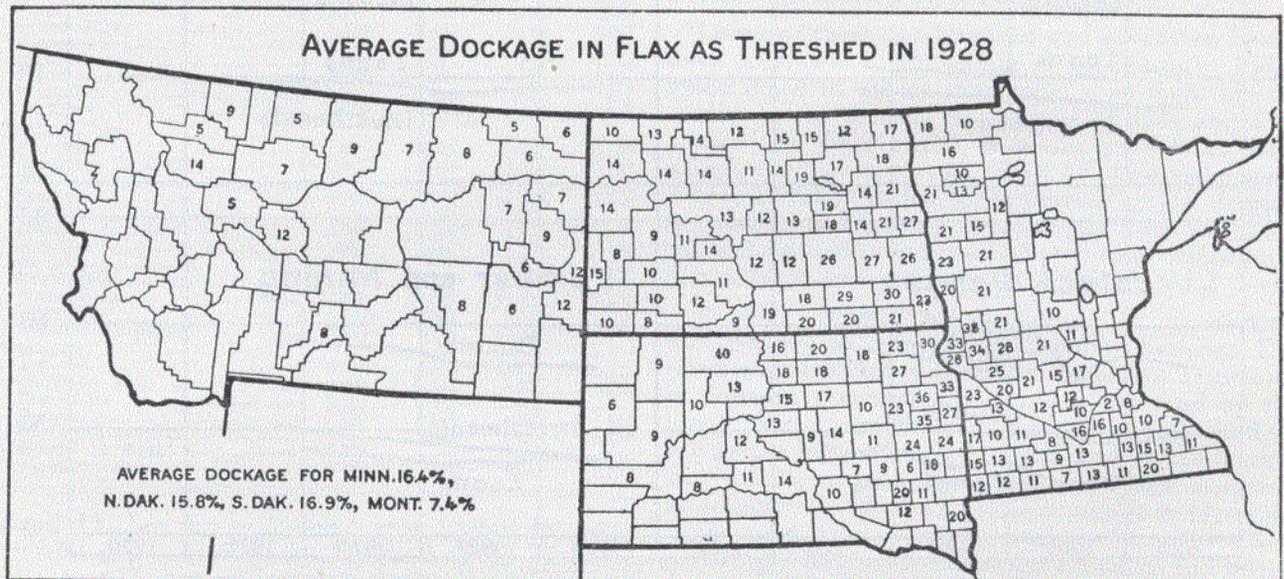
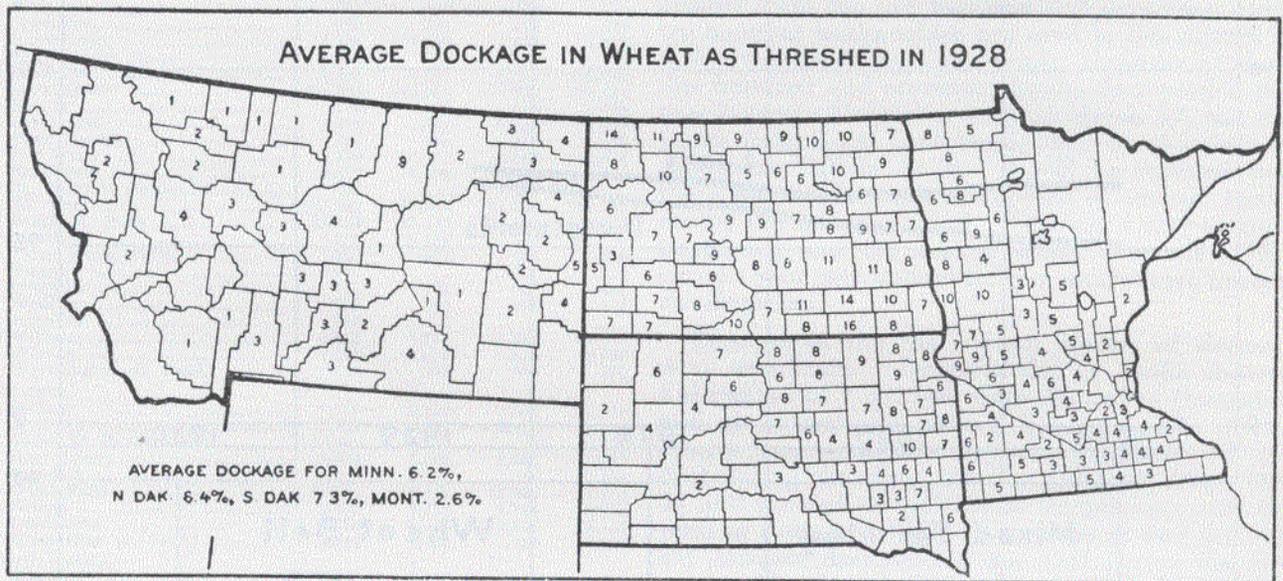
to be nearly 3 million dollars larger than the income from this source in March, 1928, in spite of a smaller run of hogs. The estimated income from dairy products during February was 17 per cent larger than the income from this source in February last year. The prices of wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, potatoes and ewes were lower than a year ago. The prices of flax, hens, eggs, butter, beef cattle, calves, hogs and lambs were higher than a year ago.

The menace of weeds in small grain continues very serious. The dockage in wheat and flax raised in this district in 1928 amounted to 33 million bushels. According to the United States Department of Agriculture's maps, which are reproduced below, the dockage in wheat was as much as 14 to 16 per

cent in some counties and the dockage in flax ran as high as 35 to 36 per cent.

One million more acres will be in crop this season than last in the Northwest, if farmers in the four states—Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota—carry out the March 1 planting intentions reported to the United States Department of Agriculture. This is an increase of 2 per cent. For the whole United States, the increase is only $3\frac{1}{4}$ million acres, an increase of about 1 per cent. To obtain total acreage figures, average winter abandonment has been deducted from actual fall plantings of winter wheat, and only the rye acreages sown for grain have been included.

The largest changes intended are in barley and



COMPILED FROM DATA FURNISHED BY OVER 3500 COUNTRY ELEVATOR MANAGERS LOCATED IN THESE FOUR STATES.
PREPARED BY GRAIN INVESTIGATIONS, BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

flax, increases of 14.5 per cent and 11.0 per cent, respectively. The ten-year average yield of barley was 23.4 bushels per acre. If a yield of 23 bushels per acre is realized on the intended barley acreage, the 1929 production in our four states will be more than a million bushels greater than the huge crop harvested in 1928. It is interesting to note that the intended barley acreage in the rest of the United States is 2 per cent less than the acreage harvested last year.

The third largest increase intended was in spring bread wheat of 9 per cent, or 1 million acres. The intended decrease in durum wheat, however, was even greater—1 1/3 million acres—making the intended total spring wheat acreage in these four states slightly less than was harvested last year. Even if the entire intended reduction in durum wheat acreage is realized, the acreage devoted to this crop will still be nearly 10 per cent larger than the average for the period 1919-1928. The intended acreage of all spring wheat was about 1 million acres greater than the average for the same ten-year period.

In addition to the large intended increase in barley acreage, both of the other feed grains (corn and oats) and tame hay showed increases in our four states, with the result that the total area intended for feed crops is nearly 2 million acres greater than last year.

Intended cash crop acreages (wheat, rye, flax and potatoes) total nearly a million acres less than a year ago. Total cash crop and total feed crop

acreage figures are given in the accompanying table.

The growing importance of the livestock industry in our four states is clearly shown by the constant increase in area planted to feed crops. While figures for the United States show practically no change in the proportion that feed crop acreages are of the total area planted in the last ten years, the following table shows the steady increase in the four states—Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Per Cent Total Feed Crop Acreages of Total Acreage of All Crops

	1929	1928	1919-1928
	Intentions	Harvested	Average
Four States	57.6	55.3	54.7
United States . . .	75.5	75.9	75.0

The United States Department of Agriculture's report on the condition of winter wheat, issued April 9, states that the April 1 condition of all winter wheat was 82.7 per cent, compared with 68.8 per cent last year and the ten-year average of 80.9 per cent. Referring to the probable abandonment, the report states, "While too early to fix a definite figure because of the further loss that frequently occurs in April, the best indications point to about 7 per cent loss from winter killing."

The abandonment figure used in the preparation of our winter wheat acreages estimates was the ten-year average, 12 per cent.

The condition of rye on April 1 was reported to be 84.9 per cent, compared with 79.3 last year and the ten-year average of 85.2.

MARCH 1, 1929 INTENTIONS TO PLANT WITH COMPARISONS
United States Department of Agriculture

	TOTAL CASH CROPS					TOTAL FEED CROPS					
	Intentions	Intentions as % of			Intentions	Intentions	Intentions as % of		Intentions	Intentions	
	3-1-1929	1928	% of 1928	Average			10 Yr. Av.	3-1-1929			1928	% of 1928	Average	10 Yr. Av.
Minnesota	2,712	3,081	88	3,733	73	13,071	12,625	104	11,429	114	
Montana	4,607	4,622	100	3,777	122	2,560	2,331	110	2,189	117	
No. Dakota . . .	12,545	12,922	97	12,015	104	6,780	6,173	110	5,607	121	
So. Dakota . . .	4,040	4,079	99	3,579	113	10,012	9,392	107	8,654	116	
Four States . . .	23,904	24,704	97	23,104	103	32,423	30,521	106	27,879	116	
United States . .	69,538	67,714	103	70,466	99	214,265	212,808	101	210,890	102	
	ALL WHEAT					RYE		FLAX		POTATOES	
	Intentions	1928	Intentions	Intentions	Intentions	1928	Intentions	1928	Intentions	1928	
	3-1-1929		3-1-1929	3-1-1929	3-1-1929		3-1-1929		3-1-1929		
Minnesota	1,442	1,599	349	402	617	726	304	354			
Montana	4,133	4,235	116	154	323	196	35	37			
North Dakota . .	9,937	10,367	988	1,271	1,486	1,143	134	141			
South Dakota . .	3,283	3,262	182	162	506	588	69	67			
Four States . . .	18,795	19,463	1,635	1,989	2,932	2,653	542	599			
United States . .	59,837	57,724	3,293	3,444	2,990	2,721	3,418	3,825			
	CORN			OATS		BARLEY		TAME HAY			
	Intentions	1928	Intentions	1928	Intentions	1928	Intentions	1928			
	3-1-1929		3-1-1929		3-1-1929		3-1-1929				
Minnesota	4,293	4,089	4,171	4,089	2,160	2,000	2,447	2,447			
Montana	329	274	637	554	261	209	1,333	1,294			
North Dakota . .	1,097	997	1,973	1,934	2,615	2,179	1,095	1,063			
South Dakota . .	4,782	4,469	2,259	2,193	1,874	1,644	1,097	1,086			
Four States . . .	10,501	9,829	9,040	8,770	6,910	6,032	5,972	5,890			
United States . .	100,201	100,761	41,401	41,733	13,314	12,539	59,349	57,775			

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	Mar., 1929	Feb., 1929	Mar., 1928	%Mar. 1929 of Feb. 1929	%Mar. 1929 of Mar. 1928
Debits to Individual Accounts, Daily Averages—Unit					
17 Cities	\$33,282,000	\$33,325,000	\$30,384,000	100	110
Minneapolis	17,121,000	17,262,000	15,250,000	99	112
St. Paul	7,602,000	7,607,000	7,109,000	100	107
Duluth-Superior	3,033,000	3,048,000	2,953,000	100	103
8 Wheat Belt Cities.....	2,328,000	2,420,000	2,310,000	96	101
4 Mixed Farming Cities.....	1,778,000	1,722,000	1,574,000	103	113
South St. Paul	1,420,000	1,266,000	1,188,000	112	120
Carloadings—Northwestern District—					
Total—Excluding L. C. L.....	355,087	327,229	389,454	109	91
Grains and Grain Products.....	43,677	44,517	59,883	98	73
Livestock	31,368	32,487	40,180	97	78
Coal	23,400	43,467	26,853	54	87
Coke	7,749	8,547	7,483	91	104
Forest Products	87,667	67,675	91,160	130	96
Ore	2,553	2,211	2,597	115	98
Miscellaneous	158,673	128,325	161,298	124	98
Merchandise—L. C. L.....	140,427	116,896	149,755	120	94
Building Permits—					
Number—18 Cities	1,092	328	1,380	333	79
Value—18 Cities	\$2,815,800	\$1,565,900	\$3,779,500	180	75
Minneapolis	1,414,200	1,142,500	1,800,000	124	79
St. Paul	360,900	148,600	585,700	243	61
Duluth-Superior	240,200	104,800	478,500	229	50
4 Wheat Belt Cities	388,600	80,000	326,400	486	119
6 Mixed Farming Cities.....	297,900	86,900	508,900	343	59
4 Mining Cities	114,000	3,100	80,000	3677	143
Building Contracts Awarded—					
Total	5,494,300	3,746,500	5,505,400	147	100
Residential	1,838,900	390,200	1,948,500	471	94
Commercial and Industrial.....	931,800	1,947,700	1,460,800	48	64
Public Works and Utilities.....	1,128,400	536,300	664,100	210	170
Educational	589,700	297,000	369,500	199	160
All Other	1,005,500	575,300	1,062,500	175	95
Cash Value of Farm Products Sold—					
Bread Wheat	7,215,000	6,653,000	13,345,000	108	54
Durum Wheat	5,468,000	3,658,000	4,571,000	149	120
Rye	556,000	676,000	1,596,000	82	35
Flax	707,000	625,000	428,000	113	165
Potatoes	2,678,000	2,165,000	5,114,000	124	52
Dairy Products—See Note.....	20,258,000	19,815,000	17,308,000	102	117
Hogs	12,983,000	15,000,000	10,128,000	87	128
Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior—					
Wheat	57,349,399	54,498,716	41,967,419	105	137
Corn	2,463,214	2,536,199	2,140,440	97	120
Oats	3,006,031	2,792,394	6,432,367	108	47
Barley	5,748,549	5,524,859	1,655,847	104	347
Rye	3,557,428	3,209,936	3,885,473	111	91
Flax	603,109	736,886	2,089,105	82	29
Median Cash Grain Prices—					
Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern.....	\$1.32	\$1.35	\$1.43 ³ / ₈	98	92
Durum—No. 2 Amber.....	1.25	1.31 ⁵ / ₈	1.30 ³ / ₄	95	96
Corn—No. 3 Yellow.....	.92	.91 ¹ / ₄	.94	101	98
Oats—No. 3 White.....	.45 ⁵ / ₈	.48 ³ / ₄	.55 ⁵ / ₈	94	82
Barley—No. 3 .....	.64	.67	.89	96	72
Rye—No. 2	1.01	1.07 ¹ / ₄	1.14	94	89
Flax—No. 1	2.48	2.55 ¹ / ₄	2.31 ¹ / ₂	97	107
Wholesale Produce Prices—					
Butter .....	.45 ¹ / ₂	.46 ¹ / ₂	.45	98	101
Milk	2.50	2.55	2.52	98	99
Hens—4 ¹ / ₂ Pounds .....	.24	.23	.21 ¹ / ₂	104	112
Eggs .....	.26 ¹ / ₂	.30	.23 ¹ / ₂	88	113
Potatoes .....	.66	.66	1.24 ¹ / ₂	100	53

NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

223

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

	Unit	Mar., 1929	Feb., 1929	Mar., 1928	%Mar. 1929 of Feb. 1929	%Mar. 1928 of Mar. 1928
Livestock Receipts at South St. Paul—						
Cattle	Head	59,336	35,833	57,350	166	103
Calves	Head	52,850	37,825	51,398	140	103
Hogs	Head	227,141	239,247	280,884	95	81
Sheep	Head	19,816	41,128	13,886	48	143
Median Livestock Prices at South St. Paul—						
Butcher Cows	Cwt.	\$8.50	\$8.00	\$8.25	106	103
Butcher Steers	Cwt.	11.50	10.40	11.50	111	100
Prime Butcher Steers	Cwt.	12.75	11.75	12.75	109	100
Stocker and Feeder Steers	Cwt.	10.50	9.50	9.50	111	111
Veal Calves	Cwt.	14.50	12.50	11.50	116	126
Hogs	Cwt.	11.25	10.00	7.90	113	142
Heavy Hogs	Cwt.	11.00	9.50	6.75	116	163
Lambs	Cwt.	16.25	16.00	15.60	102	104
Ewes	Cwt.	7.00	8.50	9.00	82	78
Flour—						
Production—Twin Cities and Duluth-						
Superior	Bbls.	974,336	1,048,132	1,343,519	93	73
Shipments from Minneapolis	Bbls.	886,325	912,306	1,235,496	97	72
Linseed Products Shipments from Minneapolis—Lbs.						
		34,028,089	36,693,262	45,269,389	93	75
Retail Sales—						
Department Stores		\$2,547,100	\$1,935,990	\$2,508,500	132	102
Furniture Stores		431,760	350,530	430,770	123	100
Country Lumber Yards	Bd. Ft.	6,564,000	3,285,000	7,022,000	200	93
Retail Merchandise Stocks—						
Department Stores		\$6,263,250	\$5,927,310	\$6,414,010	106	98
Furniture Stores		2,522,150	2,411,630	2,742,640	105	92
Country Lumber Yards	Bd. Ft.	88,605,000	86,453,000	91,428,000	102	97
Life Insurance Sales—(4 States)						
		\$25,835,000	\$21,601,000	\$25,717,000	120	100
Wholesale Trade—						
Farm Implements		482,460	230,440	490,030	209	98
Hardware		2,013,340	1,454,400	1,998,850	138	101
Shoes		513,760	353,550	560,750	145	92
Groceries		4,581,430	4,096,620	4,859,220	112	94
Business Failures—						
Number		39	47	83	83	47
Liabilities		\$540,973	\$1,362,209	\$ 996,828	40	54
Securities Sold—						
To Banks		1,578,200	2,292,000	3,490,700	69	45
To Insurance Companies		1,138,200	758,000	1,338,000	150	85
To General Public		7,114,000	8,643,800	8,037,900	82	89
Real Estate Activity in						
Hennepin and Ramsey Counties—						
Warranty Deeds Recorded		824	624	1050	132	78
Mortgages Recorded		1328	1160	1625	114	82
Member Bank Deposits—						
In Cities under 15,000 Population		\$460,831,000	\$460,531,000	\$457,305,000	100	101
In Cities over 15,000 Population		460,440,000	457,314,000	462,708,000	101	100
%April %April						
1929 1929						
of of						
Mar. Mar.						
1929 1928						
24 City Member Banks—						
Loans Secured by Stocks and Bonds		\$81,754,000	\$84,323,000	\$74,475,000	97	110
All Other Loans		172,578,000	180,376,000	176,942,000	96	98
Securities		126,975,000	130,096,000	133,161,000	98	95
Net Demand Deposits Subject to Reserve		214,554,000	229,017,000	222,217,000	94	101
Time Deposits		131,313,000	132,899,000	134,470,000	99	98
Borrowings at Federal Reserve Bank		18,460,000	13,615,000	11,978,000	136	154
Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank—						
Bills Discounted		22,577,333	16,037,511	14,089,969	141	160
Federal Reserve Notes in Circulation		63,954,695	62,911,800	56,343,755	102	114

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

The volume of industrial production and of trade increased in March and wholesale prices advanced somewhat. There was a growth of commercial loans of member banks in leading cities in March and the first half of April, while investments and loans on securities of these banks showed a reduction for the period.

PRODUCTION: The output of manufactures reached a new high level in March, automobile production was exceptionally large and steel ingot output was reported to be above rated capacity. The output of refined copper, lumber, cotton and silk textiles and sugar was also large for the season. There was some seasonal recession from February in the production of wool textiles and leather, and a further decline in production of meat-packing plants. The volume of factory employment and payrolls continued to increase during the month and was substantially above the level of March, 1928. The production of minerals as a group declined sharply, reflecting a reduction in the output of coal by more than the usual seasonal amount. The output of non-ferrous metals continued large and petroleum production increased.

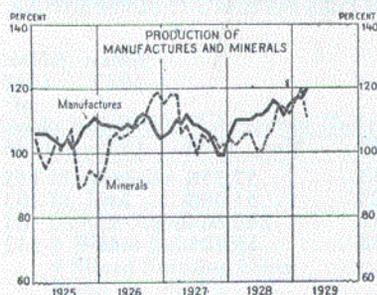
During the first part of April, industrial activity continued at a high rate although preliminary reports indicated a slight slowing down in certain branches of the steel industry and a smaller output of coal and petroleum.

The value of building contracts awarded increased seasonally during March and the first two weeks in April, reflecting in part the award of a few large contracts, chiefly commercial and industrial. The total volume of building, however, continued smaller in March than a year ago. Contracts for residential building and public works and utilities were substantially below the level of March, 1928, while industrial and commercial building was in larger volume.

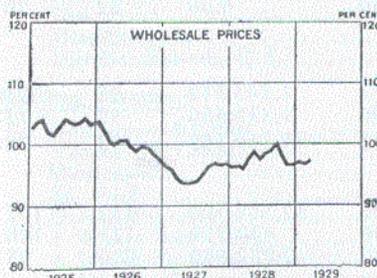
DISTRIBUTION: Railroad shipments of commodities declined somewhat in March, but were larger than in the same period of the preceding year. The decline from February reflected smaller shipments of coal and coke, grain products and live stock, all of which were also below March a year ago. Loadings of ore and miscellaneous freight increased substantially over February and continued above 1928. Sales by wholesale firms in all lines of trade reporting to the Federal Reserve System were seasonally larger than in February. In comparison with the same month a year ago, however, sales in most lines of trade were smaller, except in the case of dry goods, men's clothing and hardware. Department store sales showed a larger increase in March than is usual at this season, and were larger than in the same month in the preceding year, partly on account of the fact that Easter came in March this year.

PRICES: Wholesale prices of commodities during March averaged slightly higher than in February, according to the index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. There were marked increases in prices of copper and lead and smaller advances in prices of iron and steel and cotton goods, as well as of certain agricultural products, particularly cotton, live stock, meats and hides. Prices of grain and flour were lower during the month and the price of leather declined, reflecting an earlier decline in prices of hides. Silks and rayon textiles and raw wool were also somewhat lower in price. In the middle of April, prices of live stock and raw silk were higher than at the end of March, while cotton and wool had declined in price. Among the non-agricultural products, there were marked declines in the prices of copper, lead, tin and zinc, a further decline in rubber and increases in pig iron and finished steel.

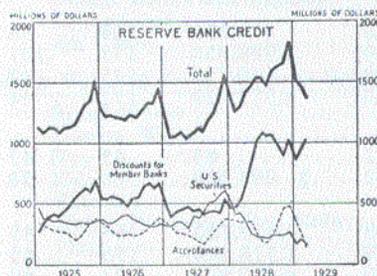
BANK CREDIT: Between March 20 and April 17, there was a considerable decline in the volume of member banks' loans to brokers and in the banks' holdings of investments. Loans chiefly for commercial and agricultural purposes showed a rapid increase, and at the end of the period were near the high level of last autumn. During the same period, the volume of Reserve bank credit in use declined further as a consequence of additions to the country's stock of monetary gold. A continued rapid reduction in holdings of acceptances carried the total to the lowest point since the autumn of 1924. Security holdings also decreased somewhat, while discounts for member banks increased. Open market rates on bankers' acceptances and commercial paper increased further. Rates on collateral loans increased sharply in the latter part of March, but declined in April.



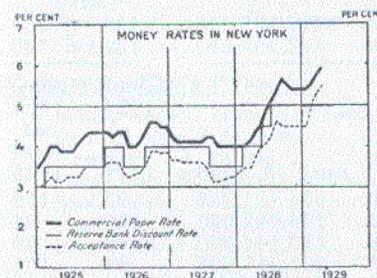
Index numbers of production of manufactures and minerals, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average=100). Latest figures, March, manufactures 120, minerals 110.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1926=100, base adopted by Bureau). Latest figure, March, 97.5.



Monthly averages of daily figures for 12 Federal reserve banks. Latest figures are averages of first 22 days in April.



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 22 days in April.