

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 Ninth Federal Reserve District during October was below that of September, according to the evidence of a majority of seasonally adjusted indexes prepared in this office. The index of miscellaneous carloadings and the country lumber sales index increased, but the l. c. l. carloadings index was unchanged, and the indexes of bank debits, country check clearings, and sales at city department stores all showed declines from the preceding month.

Seasonally Adjusted Indexes of Business in the Ninth Federal Reserve District

(Varying base periods)

	October 1934	September 1934	October 1933
Bank Debits	57	61	54
Country Check Clearings (revised) 100	107	107	80
L. c. l. Carloadings	59	59	59
Miscellaneous Carloadings	70	65	61
City Department Store Sales	72	75	66
Country Lumber Sales	70	68	55

When compared with October last year, bank debits were 7 per cent larger, and country check clearings were 26 per cent larger. Increases were also recorded in both number and valuation of building permits, in electric power consumption (excluding Montana), and grain, live stock, forest products, miscellaneous and l. c. l. shipments, in real estate activity in Hennepin and Ramsey counties, flour production and shipments from Minneapolis, country lumber sales, life insurance sales, securities sales, and wholesale trade. Decreases occurred in electric power consumption in Montana, total building contracts awarded, linseed product shipments from Minneapolis, carloadings of ore, coal, and coke, and copper output.

In the first half of November, it appears that the dollar level of business was above the level of a year ago, for country check clearings were 33 per cent larger and bank debits were 10 per cent larger than in the corresponding period last year. If these series continue through the remainder of November at the level of the first half of the month, the country check clearings index for November will be slightly higher than that for October and the bank debits index will be the same as the index for October.

Retail Trade

Retail trade in the Ninth Federal Reserve District during October was again much larger than in the same month last year, although the percentage of increase reported by four hundred and ninety-nine country stores and by twenty-two city department stores was a little less than that reported in September. Country stores reported an increase of 21 per cent over October sales last year. As was the case last month, every sub-section of the district reported an increase. The greatest increases, ranging from 26 to 48 per cent, were reported by stores in the two sub-sections in Montana, in eastern South Dakota, and the northern Wisconsin and Michigan sub-section. City department stores located in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth-Superior reported a gain of 8 per cent, compared with an increase of 12 per cent in September.

	% Oct., 1934, of Oct., 1933
Mpls., St. Paul, Duluth-Superior.. (22 stores)	108
Country Stores	121
Minnesota—Southwestern	(36 stores) 117
Minnesota—Southeastern	(25 stores) 122
Minnesota—South Central	(26 stores) 118
Minnesota—Central	(12 stores) 116
Minnesota—Northeastern	(10 stores) 113
Minn.-No. Dak., Red River Val. (11 stores)	123
Montana—Mountain	(16 stores) 134
Montana—Plains	(34 stores) 148
North Dakota	(55 stores) 110
South Dakota—Southeastern.. (15 stores)	117
South Dakota—Other Eastern.. (51 stores)	127
Northern Wisconsin and Mich.. (39 stores)	126
Wisconsin—West Central	(49 stores) 120
Ninth District	(521 stores) 115

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

On October 17 member banks submitted reports of condition, thus affording an opportunity to inspect in some detail the changes in northwestern banking conditions which have occurred since June. Deposits of member banks in the district increased 57 million dollars between June 30 and October 17. Of this amount, 2 million dollars was caused by the addition of six new member banks. The increase in deposits was not accompanied by an equivalent increase in loans and investments. These latter items were expanded by only 14 million dollars, and since the member banks in the district are almost completely out of debt to other banks, it is evident that

they increased their correspondent balances materially during the interval between the June and October calls. This development has been mentioned in previous reviews as a leading factor in the changes in the weekly balance sheets of city banks in this district.

Loans to customers decreased 4 million dollars between the June and October calls. The decrease was divided about evenly among loans on securities, loans on farm land, and loans on other real estate, with minor reductions in loans to banks and "all other" loans. Investments in securities and open market paper increased 18 million dollars between the two call dates. The greater part of the increase was in securities, other than United States Government securities, and in commercial paper.

Country member banks in the district experienced an increase of 19 million dollars in deposits between the June and October call dates. Their loans and investments increased only 3 million dollars, with investment holdings rising 11 million dollars and loans to customers declining 8 million dollars.

City banks reported an increase of 38 million dollars in deposits between the two call dates. Their loans and investments increased 11 million dollars, of which 4 millions were in loans to customers and 7 millions in investment holdings.

From the weekly reports of city member banks, it is possible to bring the developments in city banking in the Northwest down to November 14. During the period from the October call to November 14, there was a very sharp increase in deposits of city banks, amounting to 20 million dollars and bringing deposits of these banks up to the highest level on record. During the past twelve months, deposits of these banks have increased practically 100 million dollars, or 25 per cent. About 20 million dollars of the increase was due to the absorption of a non-member bank by one of the reporting city banks. The remainder of the increase occurred chiefly in deposits by country correspondent banks, reflecting the great improvement in the quick asset position of the rural banks in the Northwest. Second in importance of the factors in the growth of city bank deposits during the past year was the pronounced seasonal increase during the fall months in demand deposits of firms and individuals. These latter balances have shown a seasonal increase of a magnitude equal to the seasonal movements in the years 1927 to 1929. Deposits of public funds and time deposits also contributed to the increase in total deposits of these city banks.

On the asset side of the balance sheets of city member banks in the Northwest, the changes between the October call date and November 14 included a decrease of 2 million dollars in loans to customers, an increase of 8 million dollars in investments, and an increase of 15 million dollars in cash and balances due from banks. Investment holdings and balances due from banks were the largest reported totals on record for these banks.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Income and Prices

The October estimate of farm income in this district from seven important items was 7 per cent smaller than the October, 1933, estimate, chiefly on account of smaller bread wheat marketings resulting from decreased production in 1934, when compared with the preceding year. Despite the extremely small crops of durum wheat and flax, the 1934 estimates of income from marketings of those two crops are larger than those of 1933. Slightly larger butter production and a 5 per cent increase in fluid milk marketings, coupled with higher prices for both butter and milk, resulted in a 10 per cent increase over October last year in the dairy products income estimate. This increase, however, is much smaller than that shown in September (34%) which was the second largest increase over the preceding year in the last fifteen months. These income estimates exclude benefit payments and loans to farmers by Government instrumentalities.

Prices of all important northwestern farm products were higher in October than in the same month last year with three exceptions. Light butcher steer, lamb, and potato prices were slightly below those prevailing in October last year. Northwestern farm product prices in October this year, however, were all below those of September, with the exception of lambs and milk which were unchanged, and eggs which increased to 18c per dozen. The extent of the decline in farm product prices from September to October is well reflected in the composite index of northwestern farm product prices computed by the University of Minnesota. This index, which is slightly adjusted for seasonal factors, declined from 81.5 in September to 71.2 in October. A year ago the October figure was 56.3.

Livestock Marketings

Cattle receipts at South St. Paul, including those received on Government account, during October were considerably in excess of receipts in October last year, but were a little more than half as large as receipts in the preceding month, chiefly on account of the rapid tapering off of Government purchases early in October. During the month, the quality of butcher cattle receipts was low. Very few dry fed steers and heifers were marketed, the bulk of the receipts consisting of cattle showing plainly the effects of the drouth. In the first half of November, receipts continued in about the same volume as last month and in the same period last year, with practically no receipts on Government account. The quality of butcher cattle received during the first half of November was about the same as in October, with the exception of marketings of entries in the Junior Live Stock Show. A somewhat larger than usual number of entries resulted in a very plentiful supply of well-finished animals that temporarily more than satisfied local buying demand. Median prices in October for most classes of cattle were un-

changed or higher than in the same month last year, but were all lower than in September. Burdensome supplies of dressed beef in cold storage were held responsible for the weakness in cattle prices. During the first half of November, all classes of cattle, except calves, have shown further recessions.

A report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on "The Beef Cattle Outlook" states that most of the increase of more than 10 million head of cattle that occurred between January, 1928, and January, 1934, will have been eliminated by January, 1935, and that this will result in a greatly reduced slaughter of beef animals in 1935 and should cause a material price improvement. The greatest decrease in slaughter, according to the report, will probably be in cows and heifers, which will be retained on farms and on the ranges for the purpose of rebuilding herds to "pre-drouth" size.

Hog receipts at South St. Paul increased each week during October and in the last week of the month were larger than in any week since last January. The most surprising feature of the heavy hog marketings in October was that despite a much smaller hog crop in our district this year than last, and a resulting smaller supply available for marketing, hog marketings in October this year were larger than in October a year ago.

Hog prices continued the decline of the latter half of September during the first three weeks of October, but held fairly steady for the balance of the month and for the first half of November.

The United States Department of Agriculture, in its report on "The Hog Outlook," anticipates the smallest commercial hog slaughter in 20 years for the 1934-1935 season as a result of decreases in both numbers and average weights. As a result, hog prices in 1934-1935 are expected to average materially higher than in the last three marketing years. According to the report, no material increase in hog slaughter appears probable before the 1936-1937 marketing year.

Receipts of sheep and lambs at South St. Paul during October were much larger than in the preceding month or in the same month a year ago. While the increase over September was seasonal, the increase over October last year was largely the result of government drouth relief purchases. Government purchases of sheep in other drouth stricken areas were gradually curtailed in October, but were continued in the drouth sections of this district throughout the month and also in the first two weeks of November.

The October median price for slaughter ewes was a little lower than that of September, but higher than in October last year. Fat lamb median prices were the same in September and October, and slightly lower than last year's levels. Both ewe and lamb prices have been unusually stable for the last two months.

The sheep and wool outlook report of the United States Department of Agriculture states that a sharp curtailment in the number of sheep appears certain, as a result of the severe drouth, which will result in a considerable reduction in the 1935 lamb crop, and a smaller wool clip than for several years. According to the report, the reductions in the lamb crop, along with decreased market supplies of other meat animals, probably will result in substantially higher lamb prices in 1935, but the decrease in wool manufacturing activity and the present large stocks of wool make United States 1935 wool prices dependent on world wool production and consumers' demand for wool textiles.

Cold Storage Holdings

Physical quantities of most food products held in cold storage showed seasonal changes during October, but butter, pork, and lard declined by less than the usual amounts. As a result of the smaller than usual decline in butter, cold storage stocks were larger on November 1 than the five-year average for that date. This was the first time since April 1 that butter stocks were reported larger than the previous five-year average. Holdings of pork and lard decreased by only 24 million and 21 million pounds, whereas the five-year average decrease is 99 million and 40 million pounds, respectively. Stocks of cheese, which have been larger than the five-year average continuously since August, 1933, decreased by more than the usual amount during October. Net withdrawals of cold storage eggs during October reduced stocks by a little more than the five-year average decrease. The number of cases of eggs in storage has decreased each month since last July, and has been below the five-year average since August. Stocks of poultry and beef increased more than seasonally during October. The increase in stocks of both poultry and beef was approximately twice as large as the increase in October last year.

United States Cold Storage Holdings

(In thousands of pounds)

	November 1, 1934	November 1, 1933	November 1 5-year Average
Beef	108,070	59,233	53,120
Pork	499,838	493,308	431,191
Lamb and Mutton.....	3,076	2,511	3,356
Miscellaneous Meats	105,885	50,315	54,492
Total Meats	716,869	605,367	542,159
Lard	107,453	133,693	68,785
Cream*	135	218	.....
Butter	112,095	160,463	106,314
Cheese	118,043	109,655	95,404
Poultry	73,507	59,528	64,296
Eggs†	7,071	7,527	7,573

*Thousand Cans †Thousand Cases

November 1 Crop Estimates

While the acute shortage of feed and forage crops was somewhat alleviated in our district and throughout the United States by the mild weather during October and the first three weeks of November, sup-

plies of feed grains are still far below normal and are smaller than in any year since 1881. In addition, the 1934 hay crop was smaller than in any of the last 16 years, which is the entire period for which comparable figures are available. The November 1 preliminary estimate of the United States Department of Agriculture for corn produced in the four complete states of the Ninth Federal Reserve District was 4 per cent larger than that of October 1, as a result of an increase in the Minnesota estimate, which more than offset a decrease in Montana. There was no change in the estimates for North Dakota and South Dakota. The November 1 estimate for the entire United States, however, was about 3 per cent smaller than on the first of the preceding month.

Potatoes showed the only other important change in crop prospects for our district during October. In this case, however, the November 1 estimate for our four states was smaller than that of October, and the estimate for the entire United States was larger. The decrease in our four states was caused by further reductions of estimates for Montana and South Dakota. All of the improvement in the United States estimates during October occurred in the "late potato states." The larger estimates were made necessary by an increase in the size of potatoes, resulting from the favorable weather throughout October, which permitted the vines to make full use of the plentiful September moisture.

United States Department of Agriculture, November 1 Preliminary Estimates of Crop Production in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the United States, with Comparisons

(Production figures in thousands of bushels)

	CORN		
	November 1, 1934	October 1, 1934	10-year Average
Minnesota	84,320	80,104	141,180
Montana	1,632	1,836	2,547
North Dakota	5,444	5,444	21,236
South Dakota	13,209	13,209	86,464
4 States	104,605	100,593	251,427
United States	1,371,527	1,416,772	2,555,961
	POTATOES		
	November 1, 1934	October 1, 1934	10-year Average
Minnesota	23,380	23,380	29,878
Montana	1,680	1,920	2,116
North Dakota	6,930	6,930	8,278
South Dakota	1,232	1,400	4,057
4 States	33,222	33,630	44,329
United States	383,105	362,391	352,000
	FLAX SEED		
	November 1, 1934	October 1, 1934	10-year Average
Minnesota	3,480	3,480	6,508
Montana	98	98	1,081
North Dakota	830	830	7,484
South Dakota	40	60	2,691
4 States	4,448	4,468	17,764
United States	5,198	5,228	18,391

As a result of the October changes in potato estimates, a very peculiar potato situation exists. Ordinarily, potato production in our territory and in the entire United States show the same trends, but 1934 production in our four states apparently will be nearly 10 per cent smaller than the small production of 1933, and smaller than in any year since 1916. On the other hand, production in the entire United States will probably be nearly 20 per cent larger than in 1933, and larger than in any year since 1924. As a result, potato production in the four complete states in the Ninth Federal Reserve District will be less than 10 per cent of the national production for the first time since 1910.

Potato prices in our district thus far this season have been affected more by the size of the national crop than by the local situation. During each of the first three months of this season, prices have been below those of a year ago, and during the first weeks of November this year, have showed a greater decline than during November a year ago.

Farmers' Cash Income from Agricultural Production and Benefit Payments, 1931-1933

The cash income of farmers in the four complete states in the Ninth Federal Reserve District amounted to 395 million dollars in 1933. This was an increase of 12 per cent over the income in 1932 but a decrease of more than 16 per cent from 1931. The increase over 1932 was partly due to an increase in the income from live stock and live stock products and partly due to the beginning of crop benefit payments by the United States Government. These benefit payments in the Northwest amounted to more than 27 million dollars in 1933 and were almost entirely disbursed to wheat farmers in return for acreage reduction. These conclusions are drawn from a report recently released by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Farmers' Cash Income, 1931-1933 In Minnesota, North and South Dakota, & Montana

	(In thousands of dollars)		
	1933	1932	1931
Crops	\$107,924	\$119,245	\$ 76,292
Live stock and live stock products	259,335	232,208	397,001
U. S. Govt. Crop benefit payments	27,391	0	0
Total Cash Income.....	\$394,650	\$351,453	\$473,293

In our four states, farmers' cash income from the sale of live stock and live stock products represented about 66 per cent of the total income in the years 1932 and 1933 and about 84 per cent in 1931. The 1933 income from live stock and live stock products in our four states was about 12 per cent larger than in 1932, chiefly on account of large increases in South Dakota, where the Government purchased a large number of pigs, but was about one-third smaller than in 1931.

The accompanying table shows the income from all of the various sources for each of our four states in each of the last three years.

U. S. D. A. CASH INCOME ESTIMATES FROM CROP PRODUCTION IN MINNESOTA, MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA FOR 1931-32-33

(In thousands of dollars)

Crops:	1933				1932				1931					
	Minn.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States	Minn.	Mont.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States	Minn.	Mont.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States
Corn	4,308	22	15	5,463	5,791	34	33	2,092	7,950	2,961	21	781	3,794	4 States
Wheat*	7,649	10,581	31,804	50,350	5,630	14,831	31,385	13,325	65,171	5,494	3,175	10,080	2,058	20,807
Oats	3,904	242	531	4,705	3,854	332	387	1,132	5,705	3,755	96	219	241	4,311
Barley	2,466	154	1,510	4,192	2,598	132	1,074	1,905	5,709	2,440	92	808	405	3,745
Rye	1,077	4	677	1,792	738	28	1,180	744	2,690	664	2	326	177	1,169
Buckwheat	2			2	9		2	5	16	33		11	3	47
Flaxseed	6,429	162	2,036	8,736	5,367	552	2,515	578	9,012	6,793	364	3,760	610	11,527
Emmer and Spelt	19		21	45	12		16	37	65	22		24	42	88
Popcorn	4			16	5			16	21	7			24	31
Tobacco	9**			9	20				20	120				120
Hay	2,090	1,228	331	3,845	1,510	1,586	256	296	3,648	2,331	2,180	522	678	5,711
Cloverseed (R & A)	874		6	880	631		6		637	342		8		350
Sweet cloverseed	367	51	96	606	267	20	84	73	444	352	18	351	303	1,024
Alfalfa seed	326	317	77	1,006	366	181	90	180	817	437	354	110	396	1,297
Timothy seed	66		3	69	98		2	3	103	213		8		233
Dry Edible Beans	80	625		705	50	354			404	75	558			633
Potatoes	7,178	641	3,048	11,185	2,826	340	761	450	4,377	5,089	294	1,554	86	7,023
Truck crops	2,843	507	57	3,579	2,401	466	48	145	3,060	2,810	917	56	179	3,962
Apples	187	324		533	96	289		61	333	154				487
Sugar beets, for sugar	4,400			4,400	3,983				3,983		3,706			3,706
Plums and Apricots	9	6		22	5	6		12	23	8	7			15
Grapes	1			1	2				2	1				1
Strawberries	182	64	5	260	275	73	7	14	369	306	53		15	382
Small fruits	309	21	4	338	468	24	5	6	503	520	17	6	7	550
Cherries	36			36	35				35	64				64
Forest products	2,194	173	187	2,751	1,880	173	156	155	2,364	2,507	216	104	114	2,941
Nursery products	995	11	70	1,126	518	10	36	26	590	820	12	57	41	930
Greenhouse products	995	96	47	1,272	840	89	39	113	1,081	984	174	46	140	1,344
Total Crops	44,563	19,665	40,525	3,171	36,257	23,538	38,082	21,368	119,245	39,238	12,653	18,089	6,312	76,292

U. S. D. A. CASH INCOME ESTIMATES FROM LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS IN MINNESOTA, MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA FOR 1931-32-33

(In thousands of dollars)

Livestock and Livestock Products	1933				1932				1931					
	Minn.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States	Minn.	Mont.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States	Minn.	Mont.	No. Dak.	So. Dak.	4 States
Cattle and calves	24,762	7,140	9,987	17,829	24,174	7,879	8,352	10,653	51,058	32,109	12,996	8,644	27,384	81,133
Hogs	35,132	1,381	5,049	17,888	32,841	1,474	4,577	13,007	51,899	62,861	3,797	10,317	55,811	132,786
Sheep and lambs	2,650	5,469	2,080	2,311	2,509	4,137	1,910	1,587	10,143	2,914	8,256	1,671	2,083	14,924
Horses		788	228	1,518		627	486	1,144	2,257		1,166	816	761	2,743
Mules			28	213		18	27	122	167		51	24	90	171
Chickens	5,080	467	948	2,670	6,109	634	992	2,939	10,674	9,558	806	1,798	4,826	16,988
Eggs (chicken)	9,286	623	923	3,317	9,202	561	832	3,186	13,781	13,091	1,061	1,638	5,443	21,233
Milk	58,996	5,771	12,282	12,654	57,948	6,014	11,780	11,265	87,007	76,704	8,013	16,444	17,572	118,733
Wool	1,363	7,321	1,341	1,840	544	3,004	557	701	4,806	725	5,364	771	1,058	7,918
Honey					181	99	86	50	416	102	123	79	68	372
Total livestock	137,269	28,960	32,866	60,240	133,508	24,447	29,599	44,654	232,208	198,070	41,633	42,202	115,096	397,001

*In addition the following wheat benefit payments were received in 1933: Minnesota \$1,536,000; Montana \$6,224,000; North Dakota \$14,485,000; South Dakota \$5,117,000; 4 States total \$27,362,000.

**In addition tobacco benefit payments amounting to \$29,000 were received.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	Per Cent			Oct., '34	Per Cent		
	Oct., '34	Oct., '33	Oct., '33		Oct., '34	Oct., '33	Oct., '33
GENERAL BUSINESS							
Debits to Individual Accounts¹							
All Reporting Cities.....	\$ 27,178,900	\$ 25,511,500	107				
Minneapolis.....	11,948,000	12,366,000	97				
St. Paul.....	5,278,000	4,052,000	130				
South St. Paul.....	634,000	612,000	104				
Great Lakes Ports.....	1,764,800	2,041,600	86				
Beef and Pork, S.E.....	871,500	784,600	111				
Beef and Pork, S.W.....	934,400	824,400	113				
Dairy and Mixed Farming.....	1,310,800	1,108,600	118				
Wheat and Mixed Farming.....	1,786,000	1,598,400	112				
Wheat and Range.....	934,600	734,700	127				
Mining and Lumber.....	1,716,800	1,389,200	124				
Electric Power Consumption (K.W.H.)^{1,2}							
Minn., No. Dak. and So. Dak.....	4,639,700	4,468,800	104				
Montana.....	1,582,500	3,225,100	49				
Country Check Clearings¹							
Total.....	\$ 3,941,800	\$ 3,133,700	126				
Minnesota.....	1,472,600	1,205,000	122				
Montana.....	649,500	462,100	132				
North and South Dakota.....	1,196,300	940,700	127				
Michigan and Wisconsin.....	623,400	525,900	119				
Freight Carloadings—N.W. District							
Total—Excluding L.C.L.....	321,041	310,716	103				
Grains and Grain Products.....	36,373	33,846	107				
Livestock.....	34,081	29,280	116				
Coal.....	27,712	30,123	92				
Coke.....	2,847	4,026	71				
Forest Products.....	28,121	25,509	110				
Ore.....	44,349	63,179	70				
Miscellaneous.....	147,558	124,753	118				
Merchandise—L.C.L.....	87,599	84,616	104				
Building Permits							
Number—18 Cities.....	1,145	905	127				
Value—18 Cities.....	\$ 763,600	\$ 644,300	119				
Minneapolis.....	203,000	332,900	61				
St. Paul.....	253,900	158,000	161				
Duluth-Superior.....	87,800	64,800	135				
4 Wheat Belt Cities.....	102,300	22,300	459				
6 Mixed Farming Cities.....	102,300	52,000	197				
4 Mining Cities.....	14,300	14,300	100				
Building Contracts Awarded							
Total.....	\$ 6,468,100	\$ 11,159,400	58				
Commercial.....	329,000	343,300	96				
Factories.....	151,000	515,500	29				
Educational.....	287,000	76,500	375				
Hospitals, etc.....	349,000	10,500	3,324				
Public Buildings.....	288,000	750,200	38				
Religious and Memorial.....	33,000	32,000	103				
Social and Recreational.....	233,000	1,776,500	13				
Residential.....	439,100	392,200	112				
Public Works.....	3,632,000	8,629,600	42				
Public Utilities.....	727,000	361,100	201				
Real Estate Activity in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties							
Warranty Deeds Recorded.....	1,388	892	156				
Mortgages Recorded.....	2,138	871	245				
Manufacturing and Mining							
Flour Production at Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth-Superior (Bbls.).....	744,876	664,051	112				
Flour Shipments at Mpls. (Bbls.).....	704,689	588,880	120				
Linseed Product Shipments (Lbs.).....	10,627,875	11,374,453	93				
Copper Output (3 Firms) (Lbs.).....	8,454,200	11,624,000	73				
Business Failures							
Number.....	22	43	51				
Liabilities.....	\$ 458,767	\$ 383,515	120				
AGRICULTURE							
Farmers' Cash Income							
Total of 7 Items.....	\$ 28,536,000	\$ 30,538,000	93				
Bread Wheat.....	4,169,000	7,710,000	54				
Durum Wheat.....	1,731,000	1,274,000	136				
Rye.....	122,000	154,000	79				
Flax.....	1,686,000	977,000	173				
Potatoes.....	2,790,000	3,229,000	86				
Dairy Products.....	10,242,000	9,311,000	110				
Hogs.....	7,796,000	7,883,000	99				
Butter Production (Lbs.).....	37,963,000	37,813,000	100				
Grain Marketings at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)							
Bread Wheat.....	3,183,000	8,057,000	40				
Durum Wheat.....	1,201,000	1,284,000	94				
Rye.....	170,000	246,000	69				
Flax.....	892,000	543,000	164				
Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior (Bus.)							
Wheat.....	24,414,623	48,121,334	51				
Corn.....	10,534,760	7,352,583	143				
Oats.....	11,544,095	28,859,766	40				
Barley.....	10,196,999	11,644,318	88				
Rye.....	3,919,684	6,341,631	62				
Flax.....	1,256,836	1,461,842	86				
Livestock Receipts at South St. Paul (Head)							
Cattle.....	152,109	134,339	113				
Calves.....	68,120	54,174	126				
Hogs.....	212,884	208,527	102				
Sheep.....	511,892	427,759	120				
Median Cash Grain Prices (Bus.)							
Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern.....	\$ 1.15½	\$.85½	134				
Durum—No. 2 Amber.....	1.45½	.99½	147				
Corn—No. 3 Yellow.....	.76	.37½	203				
Oats—No. 3 White.....	.54¼	.33	164				
Barley—No. 3.....	.99	.....	.....		
Malting Barley—No. 3.....	1.06	.....	.....		
Rye—No. 2.....	.75½	.62½	121				
Flax—No. 1.....	1.89	1.80	105				
Median Live Stock Prices (Cwt.)							
Butcher Cows and Heifers.....	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.75	109				
Heavy Butcher Steers (1,100 lbs. and over).....	4.00	3.75	107				
Light Butcher Steers (Under 1,100 lbs.).....	4.75	5.00	95				
Prime Heavy Butcher Steers (1,100 lbs. and over).....	8.50	5.50	155				
Prime Light Butcher Steers (Under 1,100 lbs.).....	8.00	6.00	133				
Heavy Stocker and Feeder Steers (800 lbs. and over).....	3.00	3.00	100				
Light Stocker and Feeder Steers (Under 800 lbs.).....	3.50	3.50	100				
Veal Calves.....	5.00	5.00	100				
Hogs.....	5.25	4.20	125				
Heavy Hogs.....	5.40	4.00	135				
Lambs.....	6.00	6.25	96				
Ewes.....	2.00	1.50	133				
Wholesale Produce Prices							
Butter (Lb.).....	\$.23½	\$.21¼	111				
Milk (Cwt.).....	1.57	1.30	121				
Hens (Lb.).....	.11	.07½	147				
Eggs (Doz.).....	.18	.15½*	116				
Potatoes (Bu.).....	.62	.63	98				
TRADE							
City Department Stores³							
Sales.....	\$ 5,197,750	\$ 4,823,680	108				
Merchandise Stocks.....	9,191,040	9,714,340	95				
Receivables.....	3,978,440	3,984,380	101				
Instalment Receivables.....	1,478,940	1,368,030	108				
Country Department and General Stores³							
Total Sales.....	\$ 6,870,130	\$ 5,691,020	121				
Stocks.....	6,372,930	6,180,730	103				
Country Lumber Yards³							
Sales (Bd. Ft.).....	10,285,000	8,474,000	121				
Lumber Stocks (Bd. Ft.).....	57,654,000	61,667,000	93				
Total Sales.....	\$ 1,371,300	\$ 1,200,250	114				
Receivables.....	2,329,300	2,209,100	105				
Life Insurance Sales							
Four States.....	\$ 13,290,000	\$ 12,108,000	110				
Minnesota.....	10,316,000	9,062,000	114				
Montana.....	798,000	939,000	85				
North Dakota.....	806,000	1,009,000	80				
South Dakota.....	1,370,000	1,098,000	125				

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

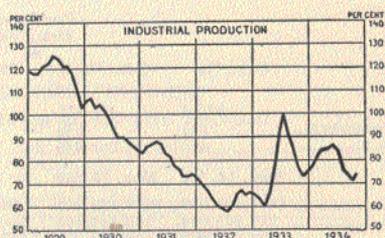
	Oct., '34	Oct., '33	Per Cent of Oct., '34	Oct., '34	Oct., '33	Per Cent of Oct., '34
Investment Dealers						
Sales to Banks.....	\$ 3,950,100	\$ 5,783,100	68			
Sales to Insurance Companies.....	688,100	844,400	200			
Sales to General Public.....	3,866,600	2,441,300	158			
Wholesale Trade						
Groceries^a						
Sales.....	\$ 3,769,650	\$ 2,930,550	129			
Stocks.....	6,660,950	5,858,560	114			
Receivables.....	3,830,410	3,977,060	96			
Hardware^a						
Sales.....	\$ 1,491,400	\$ 1,305,220	114			
Stocks.....	2,259,560	2,239,410	101			
Receivables.....	1,261,590	1,277,980	99			
Shoes						
Sales.....	\$ 417,190	\$ 319,190	131			
Stocks.....	615,520	578,960	106			
Receivables.....	901,910	869,590	104			
BANKING						
Member Bank Deposits						
In Cities over 15,000 pop.....	\$451,860,000	\$388,980,000	116			
In Cities under 15,000 pop.....	302,128,000	251,164,000	120			
Michigan—15 Cos.....	45,659,000	39,766,000	115			
Minnesota.....	124,415,000	104,252,000	119			
Montana.....	47,851,000	36,981,000	129			
North Dakota.....	28,450,000	25,620,000	111			
South Dakota.....	38,846,000	31,464,000	123			
Wisconsin—26 Cos.....	16,907,000	13,081,000	129			
Interest Rates^a						
Minneapolis Banks.....	3 3/4-4	4 1/4-4 1/2				
Commercial Paper (net to borrower)....	1 1/4	1 1/2				
Minneapolis Fed. Res. Bank.....	3	3 1/2				
Selected City Member Banks						
Loans to Customers.....	\$151,717,000	\$177,148,000	86			
Other Invested Funds.....	217,675,000	155,454,000	140			
Cash and Due from Banks.....	174,717,000	108,983,000	160			
Deposits Due to Banks.....	121,963,000	78,186,000	156			
Public Demand Deposits.....	44,572,000	28,360,000	157			
Other Demand Deposits.....	188,256,000	160,085,000	118			
Time Deposits.....	125,452,000	118,561,000	106			
Total Deposits.....	487,666,000	389,336,000	125			
Borrowings at Fed. Res. Bank.....	0	76,000	0			
Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank						
Loans to Member Banks.....	\$ 45,000	\$ 3,067,000	1			
Twin Cities.....	0	78,000	0			
Minn., Wis. and Mich.....	0	1,245,000	0			
N. Dak. and Mont.....	45,000	472,000	10			
South Dakota.....	0	1,272,000	0			
Fed. Res. Notes in Circulation.....	106,267,000	89,847,000	118			
Fed. Res. Bank Note Circulation—Net	0	4,164,000	0			
Member Bank Reserve Deposits.....	98,491,000	54,416,000	181			

^aDaily Averages. *Unclassified.
^aLatest Reported Data.
^aFigures for the various items in this section not always from identical firms.

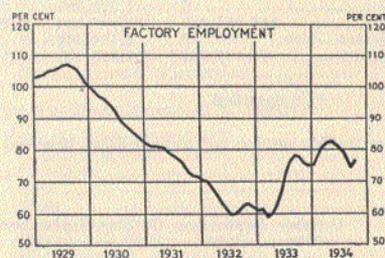
BANK DEBITS

	October 1934	September 1934	October 1933	September 1933
Number of Business days:				
Montana and North Dakota.....	26	24	25	25
All Other States.....	27	24	26	25
	(000's omitted)			
Michigan				
Calumet (1 bank).....	\$ 562	\$ 636	\$.....	\$.....
Escanaba (1 bank).....	502	574	439	473
Hancock.....	900	770	1,185	1,376
Houghton.....	1,342	1,426	1,455	1,476
Iron Mountain.....	1,492	1,600	1,274	1,785
Iron River, Stambaugh.....	728	835	463	519
Ironwood (1 bank).....	601	649	.....	.....
Laurium (1 bank).....	260	317	.....	.....
Manistique (1 bank).....	160	206	149	143
Marquette.....	2,961	2,534	2,690	2,700
Menominee.....	2,260	2,004	2,170	2,195
Sault Ste. Marie.....	2,060	2,198	1,897	1,903
Minnesota				
Albert Lea.....	2,384	1,994	2,286	1,944
Austin.....	4,083	3,440	3,664	2,838
Bemidji (2 banks).....	1,083	1,136	844*	801*
Chaska.....	438	489	424	387
Chisholm.....	719	628	826	624
Cloquet.....	1,189	1,217	1,454	1,470
Crookston.....	1,785	1,733	1,172	921*
Detroit Lakes.....	1,035	1,020	876	898
Duluth.....	37,173	40,883	44,547	44,673
Ely.....	339	335	279	272
Faribault (1 bank).....	1,395	1,214	1,122	976
Farmington.....	176	140	205	142
Fergus Falls.....	1,706	1,392	1,774	1,632
Glenwood.....	271	222	232	214
Hutchinson.....	636	499	499	393
Lakefield.....	327	308	251	197
Lanesboro.....	254	208	253	192
Little Falls.....	915	680	789	652
Luverne.....	824	749	495	466
Mankato.....	4,839	4,550	4,283	4,873
Minneapolis.....	322,601	324,440	321,513	315,732
Moorhead.....	2,270	1,901	1,985	1,839
Morris.....	406	392	813	299
Owatonna.....	2,164	1,907	1,728	2,107
Park Rapids.....	288	287	254	189
Red Wing.....	1,790	1,689	1,521	1,540
Rochester.....	3,939	3,482	3,897	3,073
St. Cloud.....	2,947	2,357	2,398	.....
St. Paul.....	142,513	126,508	106,352	106,881
Sank Rapids.....	258	241	.....	.....
South St. Paul.....	17,125	14,384	15,917	17,368
Stillwater.....	1,843	1,815	1,786	1,586
Thief River Falls.....	1,485	1,192	916	892
Two Harbors.....	335	428	329	279
Virginia.....	1,450	1,284	1,287	1,221
Wabasha.....	850	727	710	633
Wells.....	406	345	.....	.....
Wheaton.....	266	287	292	285
Willmar.....	1,025	900	528*	378*
Winona.....	6,169	5,984	4,875	4,938
Worthington (1 bank).....	799	654	469	411
Montana				
Anaconda.....	1,037	943	1,087	1,048
Billings.....	7,512	6,407	6,647	5,174
Bozeman.....	2,331	2,523	1,515	1,322
Butte (2 banks).....	8,073	7,112	6,472	6,053
Deer Lodge.....	480*	460*	402	312
Glendive.....	713	784	659	603
Great Falls.....	11,381	13,226	8,358	9,294
Harlowton.....	246	255	200	207
Hayre.....	1,386	1,304	964	965
Helena.....	9,735	9,158	5,556	5,387
Kalispell.....	1,630	1,630	1,361	1,316
Lewistown.....	1,596	1,453	1,160	1,112
Malta.....	703	706	387	332
Miles City (1 bank).....	1,250	1,076	1,200	835
North Dakota				
Bismarck.....	13,992	10,681	9,474	6,977
Devils Lake.....	1,241	1,172	1,074	1,132
Dickinson.....	1,073	997	997	932
Fargo.....	15,155	13,677	13,008	13,161
Grafton.....	1,152	958	905	706
Grand Forks.....	4,513	4,181	5,284	3,861†
Jamestown.....	1,617	1,305	1,599	1,669
Mandan.....	810	670	732	660
Minot.....	3,696	3,294	4,361	3,939
Valley City.....	1,099	921	.....	1,015
Wahpeton.....	855	685	844	729
Williston.....	1,073	988	832	923
South Dakota				
Aberdeen.....	3,564	3,722	2,922	2,869
Brookings (1 bank).....	812	911	570	524
Deadwood.....	1,096	946	816	828
Huron.....	2,371	2,033	2,523	2,502
Lead.....	2,127	1,542	1,584	1,796
Madison.....	856	765	636	505
Milbank.....	395	323	340	307
Mitchell.....	2,629	2,236	2,374	2,322
Mobridge.....	557	500	408	384
Pierre.....	3,368	2,767	998	772
Rapid City.....	1,996	1,950	1,777	1,713
Sioux Falls.....	12,300	11,299	10,794	10,611
Watertown.....	2,323	2,065	1,830	1,771
Yankton.....	1,594	1,533	1,242	1,140
Wisconsin				
Ashland.....	1,181	992	.....	.....
Chippewa Falls.....	1,760	1,377	1,354	1,410
Eau Claire.....	5,607	4,958	4,406	4,294
Hudson.....	390	314	263	179
La Crosse.....	6,445	5,913	6,515	6,368
Merrill.....	1,218	1,137	379*	361*
Rhineland.....	1,431	1,402	1,100	1,140
Superior.....	3,437	3,219	3,179	3,038
Total for 88 cities with com- parable figures for both years.....	\$720,716	\$690,255	\$653,598	\$643,629

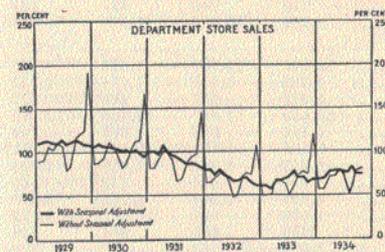
*Figures for a smaller number of banks.
†Including one bank operated by a conservator.



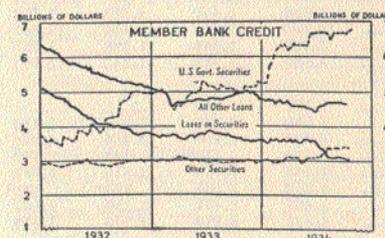
Index number of Industrial Production, adjusted for seasonal variation. (1923-1925 average=100.)



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



Indexes of daily average value of sales. (1923-1925=100.)



Wednesday figures for reporting member banks in 90 leading cities. Latest figures are for November 14.

Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled November 24 by Federal Reserve Board)

The volume of industrial production and factory employment, which usually shows little change at this season, increased in October, reflecting chiefly the resumption of activity at textile mills. Wholesale commodity prices, after declining in September and October, advanced in the first half of November.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT: Activity at industrial establishments, as measured by the Board's seasonally adjusted index, showed an increase from 71 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in September to 73 per cent in October. Among the industries producing durable manufactures, output at steel mills increased from 23 per cent of capacity for the month of September to 25 per cent for October, while output of automobiles and lumber declined. In November, activity at steel mills continued to increase, and in the week ending November 24 was at about 28 per cent of capacity. Automobile production has declined further in connection with the preparation of new models. The production of non-durable manufactures in the aggregate showed a considerable growth in October, reflecting sharp increases at cotton, woolen, and silk mills, offset in part by a decline in activity at meat packing establishments. The increase in output at textile mills after the strike in September brought output to a higher level than in August. Among the minerals, daily output of crude petroleum declined in October and that of anthracite increased by an amount smaller than is usual at this season.

Factory employment and payrolls in the country as a whole increased considerably between the middle of September and the middle of October. Sharp increases were reported at mills producing textile fabrics, while in the automobile, shoe, and canning industries there were declines of a seasonal nature.

The value of construction contracts awarded was somewhat larger in October than in any other recent month. There was an increase in residential work as well as in publicly-financed projects.

AGRICULTURE: Department of Agriculture estimates, based on November 1 conditions, indicate a cotton crop of 9,634,000 bales, 26 per cent smaller than the 1933 crop, and a corn crop of 1,372,000,000 bushels, 41 per cent smaller than last season and 45 per cent smaller than the 1927-1931 average. The tobacco crop is also considerably smaller than usual, while the white potato crop is slightly above the five-year average.

DISTRIBUTION: The number of freight cars loaded per working day decreased from September to October. Department store sales showed a seasonal increase and were at about the same level, on a seasonally adjusted basis, as in most other months since March. Rural sales of general merchandise, as reported by the Department of Commerce, increased by less than the usual seasonal amount following an unusually large increase in September.

COMMODITY PRICES: Wholesale commodity prices, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics weekly index, declined from 77.8 per cent of the 1926 average in the week ending September 8 to 76.0 per cent in the week ending November 3 and then rose in the following two weeks to 76.7 per cent. The decline was largely in prices of farm products and foods but there were also some decreases in the prices of textiles and building materials. Increases in the first half of November were largely in the prices of farm products. The price of scrap steel also advanced, while lead and zinc declined.

BANK CREDIT: Excess reserves of member banks were about \$1,910,000,000 on November 21, showing an increase of \$150,000,000 in the preceding five weeks. The increase in reserves held was \$200,000,000 of which \$50,000,000 covered a growth in required reserves. Additions to reserves resulted mainly from gold imports and further issues of silver certificates.

Loans and investments of reporting member banks in leading cities declined somewhat in the four weeks ending November 14, following an increase in the previous month. Substantial declines were shown in loans on securities and in holdings of securities other than those of the United States Government. Other loans, which had increased considerably in previous months, also showed some decline, while holdings of direct obligations of the United States Government and of securities fully guaranteed by the Government increased considerably. Customers' deposits continued to increase, while government deposits declined.

There was a further decline in open market rates on bankers' acceptances at the end of October to an offering rate of 1/8 per cent. Yields on short-term government securities and other short-term open-market money rates showed little change.