

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 April was somewhat smaller than the volume in April last year in the rural portions of the district, but exceeded last year's volume in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The April decrease in business compared with the volume a year ago throughout the greater part of the district was not as pronounced as the decrease which occurred in March. Part of the more favorable record made in April was due to the earlier opening of spring activity this year, and part was due to the later date of Easter in 1930. The calendar position of Easter affects principally retail merchandising. The Federal Reserve Board has estimated that when Easter falls as late as it did in 1930, department store sales in April are 3 per cent larger than average for that month. Conversely, when Easter falls as early as it did in 1929, April department store sales are 3 per cent smaller than average. Reporting department stores in the cities of this district experienced an increase of sales in April this year over April a year ago of only 3 per cent, which was a smaller increase than would be expected if the changing date of Easter was the only contributing factor. Consequently, it must be inferred that department store sales conditions were somewhat less favorable in April this year than a year ago.

The Easter effects were also noticeable in debits to individual accounts which were 6 per cent smaller in March than in the same month last year, but were fully as large in April as in the corresponding month a year ago. Similarly, the country check clearings index in March was 14 per cent below last year's figure, while in April the decrease was only 7 per cent. The same factor was also probably apparent in the record of postal receipts which was 4 per cent below last year's volume in March, and only 1 per cent below in April.

The majority of other business records of the district showed declines in April from the volume in April a year ago. Freight carloadings in the northwestern district were unusually small in April, owing to the late opening of the lake shipping season for iron ore, but all classes of freight moved in smaller volume during April than in the same month

last year. Building permits and contracts, flour production and shipments, linseed product shipments, copper production, country lumber sales and wholesale trade were smaller in April than a year ago. Electric power consumption in Minnesota and the Dakotas, life insurance sales and securities sales were larger in April than a year ago. Business failures were fewer in April than in the corresponding month last year, but the liabilities involved were larger.

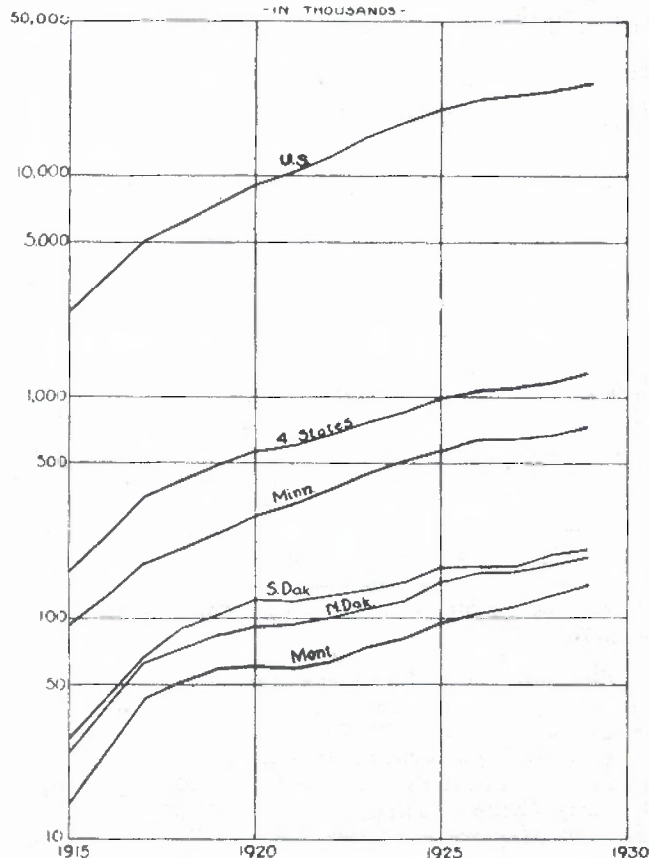
The condition of reduced volume of business as compared with last year apparently continued into May. Debits to individual accounts at seventeen cities were 2 per cent smaller in the first two weeks of May than in the corresponding weeks a year ago. Country check clearings for the first fifteen business days of May were 11 per cent smaller than in the same days last year. The daily average of contracts awarded during the first fourteen business days of May was smaller than the daily average for the month of May 1929, according to the report of the F. W. Dodge Corporation.

During 1929, 1,263,031 motor vehicles were registered in the four states of Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota, an increase of 8 per cent over the number of motor vehicles registered in the preceding year. Registrations increased in all four states, with the largest percentage increase occurring in Montana. The registrations in 1929 consisted of 1,089,499 passenger cars and 173,532 motor trucks. Truck registrations increased 13 per cent and passenger car registrations increased 8 per cent, both as compared with 1928.

Farm owned passenger cars increased only 2 per cent in 1929 over 1928, and the percentage of passenger cars in the four states which were farm owned decreased from 42 per cent in 1928 to 40 per cent in 1929. Also, the number of farm owned motor trucks increased at a smaller rate than the total increase in motor trucks in the four states, and the percentage of motor trucks which were farm owned decreased from 35 per cent to 33 per cent. (The figures for motor vehicles on farms were collected by the Farm Journal and reported in "Facts and Figures of the Automobile Industry," which is the yearbook of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.)

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

-IN THOUSANDS-



Passenger Car Registrations

1928	Total	On Farms	% Farm Owned
Minnesota	583,789	193,000	33
Montana	104,231	64,000	61
North Dakota	151,778	81,000	53
South Dakota	171,067	87,500	51

Four States.....1,010,865 425,500 42

1929

Minnesota	630,703	198,000	31
Montana	115,285	64,000	56
North Dakota	162,092	83,000	51
South Dakota	181,419	87,500	48

Four States.....1,089,499 432,500 40

Motor Truck Registrations

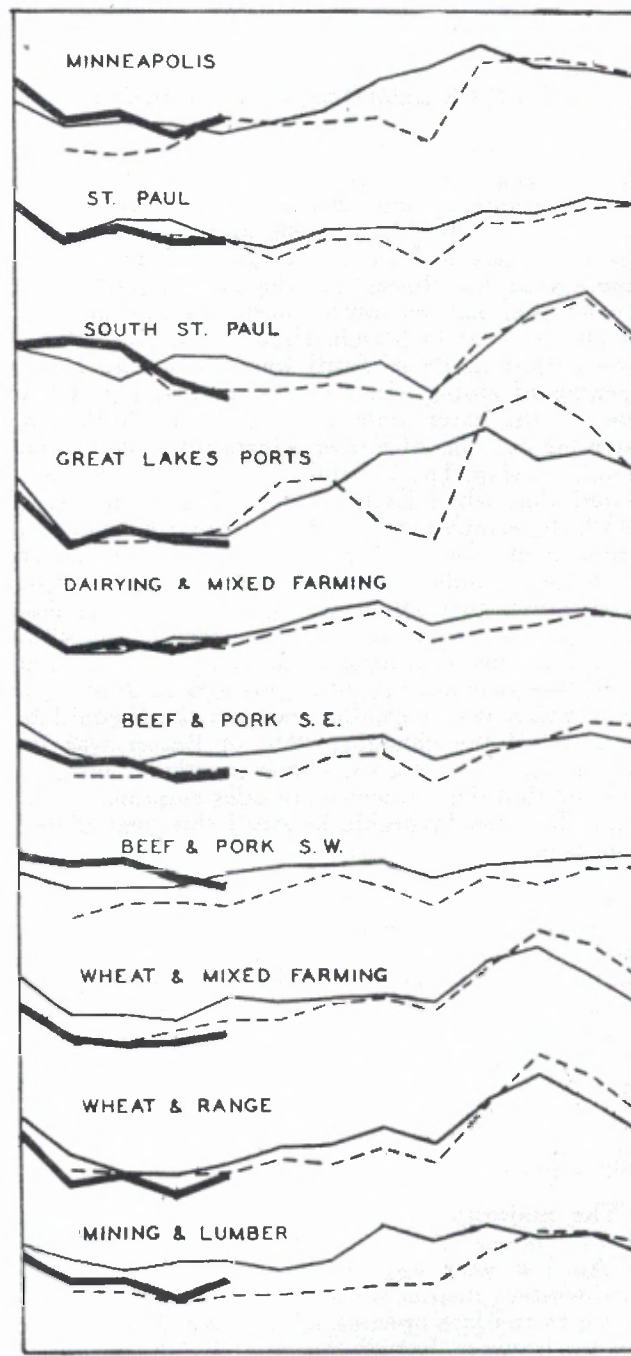
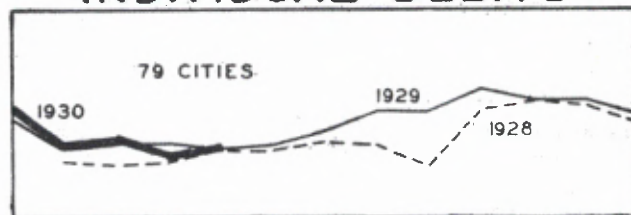
1928	Total	On Farms	% Farm Owned
Minnesota	89,784	26,500	30
Montana	21,804	8,500	39
North Dakota	21,747	9,300	43
South Dakota	20,307	9,500	47

Four States.....153,642 53,800 35

1929

Minnesota	99,696	28,500	29
Montana	25,102	8,500	34
North Dakota	25,954	10,300	40
South Dakota	22,780	10,500	46

Four States.....173,532 57,800 33

NINTH FED. RES. DISTRICT
INDIVIDUAL DEBITS

DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

The number of tractors on farms on December 31, 1929 was also reported by the Farm Journal and included in the 1930 edition of "Facts and Figures of the Automobile Industry." According to these figures, there has been an increase of 55 per cent in the number of tractors on farms in the four states mentioned above during the five years since January 1, 1925, when the Farm Census tabulated the number of tractors on farms.

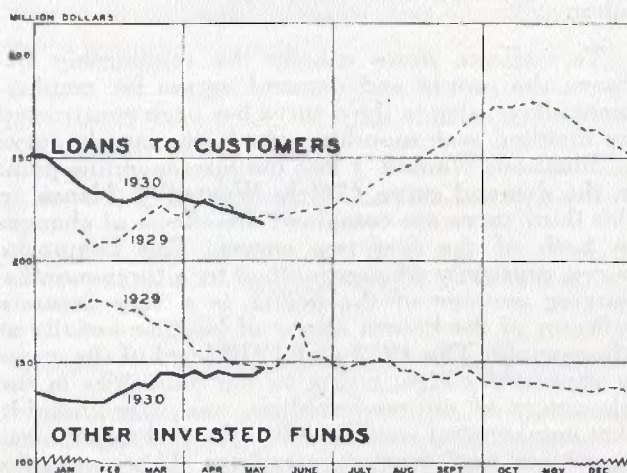
Tractors on Farms

	1925	1929
Minnesota	26,739	41,858
Montana	6,602	9,631
North Dakota	17,483	27,318
South Dakota	17,426	27,226
Four States	68,250	106,033

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

Cool weather and abundant moisture continued through the first two-thirds of May. The satisfactory moisture conditions were uniform throughout the district, and very favorable reports have been made by observers of the condition of small grains in the Northwest.

The butter situation showed further improvement during the month of April. Storage stocks of butter in the United States decreased nearly 8 million pounds, although usually there is very little change in the amount of butter in storage during the month of April. The price of butter increased $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound between March and April. Usually there is a decrease of 2 cents a pound at this time of year, and last year the decrease was $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents. As a result, the price of butter in April 1930, was only 8 cents per pound below the price in April 1929, as compared with a decrease of 12 cents reported in March.

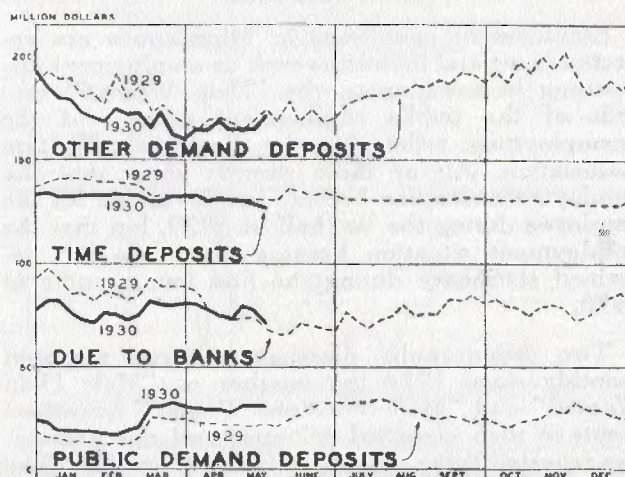


The price of all grades of cattle, except well-finished steers, declined sharply during the first two weeks of May. The prices of most grades of cattle were lower than at any time in the last two years. The weakness of cattle prices has been attributed to a falling off in demand, since stocks of beef in cold storage on May 1 were only moderately larger than stocks a year ago, and combined stocks of all meats in the United States were smaller than a year ago and smaller than the five-year average. The decrease in demand for meats has also affected the price of hogs, which was lower in April than in the same month last year, although storage stocks of pork and lard were 26 per cent smaller on May 1 than a year ago, and 15 per cent smaller than the five-year average holdings for that date.

The estimated cash income to farmers from the marketing of cash crops, hogs and dairy products in April was 28 per cent smaller than the income from these sources in April last year. Declines occurred in the income from all the estimated sources, except potatoes. Wheat receipts at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior were only two-fifths as large in April this year as in April a year ago. Decreases in April as compared with the same month last year also occurred in the prices of wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, cattle, calves, hogs, lambs, milk, hens and eggs. Price increases occurred in flax and potatoes.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

Banking reports during April and the first half of May continued to reflect quiet business conditions both in the larger cities and in the rural portion of the district. In the cities, bank deposits have been larger than last year's totals since the beginning of April, and on May 14 they exceeded the deposits a year ago by 2 per cent. This increase in deposits was entirely caused by larger balances due to country correspondent banks and larger deposits of governmental funds. Time deposits and other demand deposits were smaller on May 14 than a year



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

ago. On the asset side of the consolidated balance sheet of city banks, loans to customers continued to decline and were smaller on May 14 than a year ago. City bank investments, consisting of bonds, brokers' loans, commercial paper and acceptances, showed no significant change during April or the first week in May, but increased slightly in the second week of May, and on May 14 these invested funds were as large as the total a year ago. This was the first date in 1930 when invested funds, other than loans to customers, equaled the volume held a year ago. It is interesting to note that during 1929, the investments held by these banks followed a declining trend throughout the year, whereas the trend has been generally upward during the first part of 1930. Borrowings by Twin City banks from the Federal Reserve Bank have continued to be very small, and amounted to only \$175,000 on May 14, as compared with \$11,284,000 on May 15 last year.

Country member bank deposits decreased very slightly in April from the March total, and were 5 per cent smaller than a year ago. In spite of this decrease in deposits, country bank balances with city correspondent banks were 4 per cent larger on May 14 than a year ago, and country bank borrowings from this Federal Reserve Bank were smaller than a year ago. There has been a seasonal growth in borrowings by country banks from the Federal Reserve Bank since the middle of March, but the increase this spring was not as sharp as in 1929.

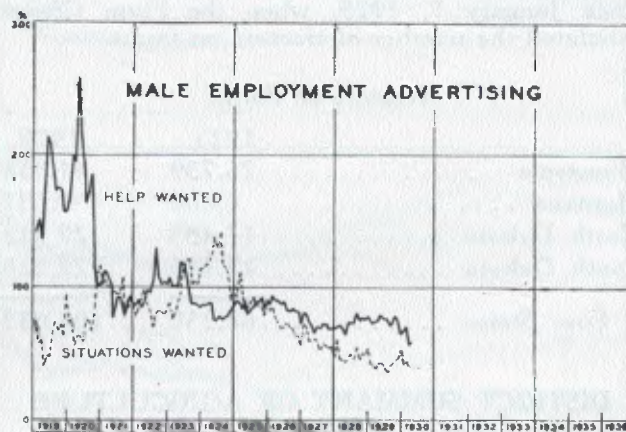
Interest rates charged by Minneapolis commercial banks were reduced slightly during the month ending May 15. The commercial paper rate quoted by brokers and the discount rate of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank remained unchanged during the month. All rates were lower than rates a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR MINNEAPOLIS

Employment conditions in Minneapolis are reflected in several indicators such as employment advertising in newspapers, the "Help Wanted" records of the public employment office and the unemployment relief given by the Family Welfare Association. All of these records show that the employment situation became less favorable for the employee during the last half of 1929, but that the employment situation became no worse but remained stationary during the first four months of 1930.

Two Minneapolis newspapers have reported monthly since 1924 the number of "Male Help Wanted" and "Male Situations Wanted" advertisements in their classified columns, and one newspaper reported these records as far back as 1919. The chart below shows index numbers based on the course of these two series after making adjustments to eliminate the effects of seasonal variations and

fluctuations due to the varying number of Sundays in the month. The "Help Wanted" curve indicates the course of demand for labor and the "Situations Wanted" curve indicates variations in the supply of labor. The classes of labor represented are largely in clerical and sales lines.

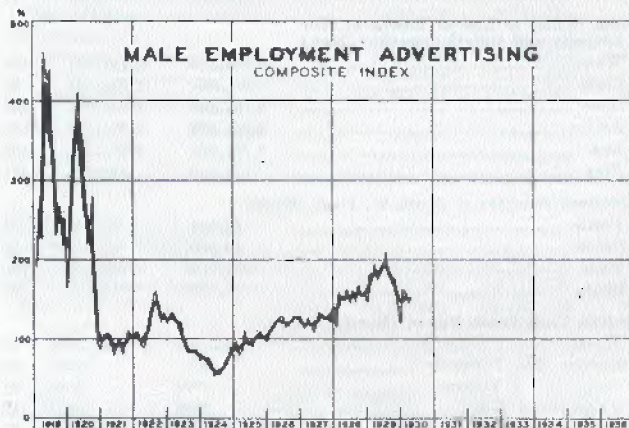


"Male Help Wanted" and "Male Situations Wanted" Advertising in Minneapolis newspapers, expressed as index numbers with corrections made for seasonal variations.

From an inspection of these curves, it becomes immediately apparent that when labor supply is small the demand for labor tends to be large and vice versa. From the course of the two curves, can be read the exceptional activity in the labor market at the close of the war before the returned soldiers had found permanent positions in civil life. The curves also reflect the active periods of business in 1922, 1925 and 1929, and the periods of sluggish business conditions of 1921, 1923-4, 1927 and 1930. It is interesting to note that both curves have followed a downward course in varying degrees since 1923-4, although the population of Minneapolis has increased. This indicates a more stable employment condition with a smaller turnover of labor.

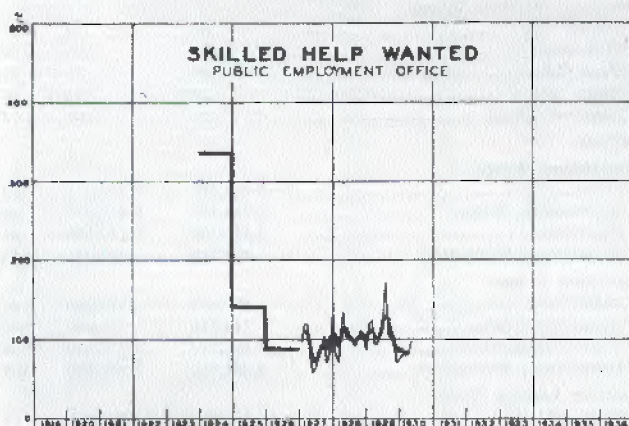
To indicate more exactly the relationship between the supply and demand curves for employment advertising, a third curve has been constructed by dividing each monthly point in the supply curve ("Situations Wanted") into the corresponding point in the demand curve ("Help Wanted"). Hence, in this third curve are combined the effects of changes in both of the first two curves. This composite curve, especially when smoothed by a three-months' moving average of the points, is a very accurate reflector of the known course of business activity at Minneapolis. The 1919 and 1920 level of the curve is abnormally high, owing to the difficulties in the placement of returned soldiers, and it is probable that employment was not fully adjusted to post-war conditions until several years later. This composite employment advertising curve portrays the active business conditions in Minneapolis culminating in April 1920, and the sharp decline which followed

and which lasted through the first quarter of 1922. The curve then reflects the active business conditions which developed with the harvesting of the large crop of 1922 and the slump in business following the crop failure of 1923 and the unfavorable national business condition at that time. From a low point in 1924, the curve rises to a peak in June 1929, interrupted by a slight decline in the last half of 1926 and the first half of 1927, which was chiefly due to the poor crop of 1926. The sharp decline in the curve which began in July 1929, came to an end in December 1929, and has been followed by a side-wise movement of the curve at a level about as high as in 1928.



Male Employment Advertising Index for Minneapolis. This index is computed by dividing the seasonally adjusted index numbers of "Situations Wanted" into the similar index numbers for "Help Wanted." The heavy curve is a 3-month moving average of the light curve.

A second series available for a shorter period of years is the record of "Skilled Help Wanted" registrations at the public employment office at Minne-

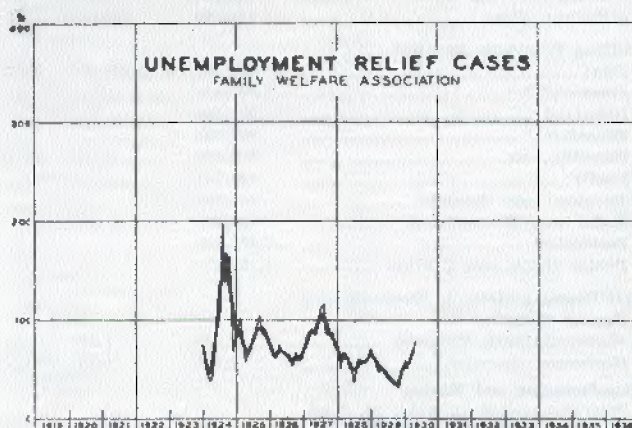


"Male Skilled Help Wanted" Registrations at the Minneapolis Public Employment Office, expressed as index numbers with seasonal variations eliminated. The curve from 1924 to 1926 is constructed from annual totals. The heavy curve from 1927 to 1930 is a 3-month moving average of the light curve.

apolis. This record is available on a monthly basis since January 1927, and in annual totals from 1924 to 1926, inclusive. This series, after seasonal corrections, exhibits the same tendencies as the employment advertising curve portrays. There was a slump in the demand for skilled labor in the first half of 1927, followed by an increase to a peak in June 1929. In the last half of 1929, the demand for skilled labor fell off sharply, but during the first months of 1930 the demand has been quite stationary at the level of December 1929, except for seasonal fluctuations.

The number of families receiving assistance from the Family Welfare Association in Minneapolis on account of unemployment has fluctuated in the opposite direction from fluctuations in the employment curves described above. There is a slight lag between the relief curve and the employment curves and also a tendency for the number of families receiving unemployment relief to increase throughout a period of depression or stagnation in the labor market. This can be attributed to the fact that the unemployed laborers exhaust their own financial resources before calling on the association for aid. Consequently, the longer the period of unsatisfactory employment conditions, the greater becomes the load carried by the Family Welfare Association.

The chart below shows the trend in number of unemployment relief cases handled by the Family Welfare Association, after corrections have been made for the growth of population in Minneapolis and for seasonal changes. It can be seen that unemployment relief was important in 1924, 1927 and 1930, coinciding closely with the low points in the employment curves presented above. Also, unemployment relief was at a low level in 1926 and 1929, when the employment curves indicated that the demand for labor was good.



Families Given Assistance, on Account of Unemployment, by the Family Welfare Association of Minneapolis. The curves are index numbers with seasonal variations eliminated. The heavy curve is a 3-month moving average of the light curve.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

GENERAL BUSINESS

	April, 1930	April, 1929	Per Cent Apr. '30 of Apr. '29
Debits to Individual Accounts¹			
All Reporting Cities.....	\$ 38,525,000	\$ 38,588,000	100
Minneapolis	17,612,000	16,443,000	107
St. Paul	6,947,000	6,910,000	101
South St. Paul	1,175,000	1,412,000	83
Great Lakes Ports	3,224,000	3,426,000	94
Beef and Pork, S. E.	1,257,000	1,365,000	92
Beef and Pork, S. W.	1,641,000	1,703,000	96
Dairy and Mixed Farming ..	1,572,000	1,588,000	99
Wheat and Mixed Farming ..	2,314,000	2,526,000	92
Wheat and Range	1,020,000	1,100,000	93
Mining and Lumber	1,762,000	2,115,000	83
Electric Power Consumption (K.W.H.)^{1,2}			
Minn., No. Dak. and So. Dak.....	4,513,000	4,472,000	101
Montana	3,860,000	4,529,000	85
Country Check Clearings¹			
Total	\$ 3,461,800	\$ 3,734,900	93
Minnesota	1,290,500	1,405,400	92
Montana	569,500	657,700	87
North and South Dakota.....	863,000	953,200	90
Michigan and Wisconsin	715,800	706,300	101
Postal Receipts			
Six Cities	1,113,881	1,123,678	99
Minneapolis	615,555	629,638	98
St. Paul	343,155	333,648	103
Duluth	61,339	65,641	93
Three Other Cities	93,832	94,756	99
Freight Carloadings—N.W. District			
Total, Excluding L. C. L.	340,538	577,875	59
Grains and Grain Products ..	38,233	41,360	92
Livestock	25,867	28,515	91
Coal	16,044	22,079	73
Coke	6,537	8,206	80
Forest Products	66,320	83,294	80
Ore	21,499	197,554	11
Miscellaneous	165,978	196,867	84
Merchandise—L. C. L.	139,763	144,485	97
Building Permits			
Number—18 Cities	2,229	2,313	96
Value—18 Cities	\$ 4,426,200	\$ 11,180,800	40
Minneapolis	1,247,500	6,938,500	18
St. Paul	817,100	1,910,000	43
Duluth-Superior	724,100	284,600	254
4 Wheat Belt Cities	601,800	1,341,700	45
6 Mixed Farming Cities	928,800	552,100	168
4 Mining Cities	106,900	153,900	69
Building Contracts Awarded			
Total	\$ 10,857,800	\$ 13,045,000	83
Commercial	1,622,400	.....	.....
Industrial	1,086,500	.....	.....
Educational	992,800	.....	.....
Hospitals, etc.	290,600	.....	.....
Public	122,700	.....	.....
Religious and Memorial	263,800	.....	.....
Social and Recreational	192,400	.....	.....
Residential	2,034,900	.....	.....
Public Works and Utilities ..	4,251,200	.....	.....
Real Estate Activity in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties			
Warranty Deeds Recorded	1,060	1,318	81
Mortgages Recorded	1,502	1,831	82
Manufacturing and Mining			
Flour Production at Mpls., St. Paul, and Duluth-Superior (Bbls.) ..	912,537	926,974	98
Flour Shipments at Mpls. (Bbls.) ..	848,750	879,711	96
Linseed Product Shipments (Lbs.) ..	17,744,635	31,154,402	57
Copper Output (5 Firms) (Lbs.) ..	30,804,600	46,881,500	66
Iron Ore Shipments (Tons)	107,559	2,516,241	4
Business Failures			
Number	67	81	83
Liabilities	\$ 935,695	\$ 717,778	130

AGRICULTURE

Farmers' Cash Income

Total of 7 Items	\$ 32,969,000	\$ 45,605,000	72
Bread Wheat	2,127,000	6,296,000	34
Durum Wheat	1,479,000	3,875,000	38
Rye	168,000	290,000	58
Flax	393,000	505,000	78
Potatoes	2,713,000	1,641,000	165
Dairy Products	16,188,000	22,651,000	71
Hogs	9,901,000	10,347,000	96

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

Bread Wheat	1,560,000	4,122,000	38
Durum Wheat	1,525,000	3,422,000	45
Rye	247,000	320,000	77
Flax	135,000	206,000	66

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

Wheat	58,486,558	53,222,521	110
Corn	925,865	1,373,624	67
Oats	8,747,855	2,906,591	301
Barley	4,921,999	4,574,394	108
Rye	3,789,816	3,273,763	116
Flax	723,439	478,684	151

Livestock Receipts at South St. Paul (Head)

Cattle	56,131	69,045	81
Calves	58,949	56,351	96
Hogs	205,720	187,624	110
Sheep	16,905	16,061	105

Median Cash Grain Prices (Bus.)

Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern	\$1.13 1/4	\$1.29 3/8	88
Durum—No. 2 Amber .....	.97	1.13 1/4	86
Corn—No. 3 Yellow .....	.77 3/4	.86 3/4	91
Oats—No. 3 White .....	.39 3/4	.46 1/4	87
Barley—No. 3 .....	.56	.63	89
Rye—No. 2 .....	.68	.90 5/8	75
Flax—No. 1	2.91	2.45	119

Median Livestock Prices (Cwt.)

Butcher Cows	\$7.50	\$9.00	83
Butcher Steers	10.75	12.75	84
Prime Butcher Steers	12.25	13.90	88
Feeder Steers	9.50	10.75	88
Veal Calves	9.00	14.50	62
Hogs	9.65	11.15	87
Heavy Hogs	9.15	11.00	83
Lambs	8.75	16.50	53
Ewes	4.25	10.00	43

Wholesale Produce Prices

Butter (Lb.) .....	.35	.43	81
Milk (Cwt.)	2.06	2.50	82
Hens (Lb.) .....	.20	.25	80
Eggs (Doz.) .....	.20 1/4	.23 1/2	86
Potatoes (Bu.)	1.80	.66	2.73

TRADE

Department Stores

Sales	\$ 3,704,760	\$ 3,580,620	103
Merchandise Stocks	7,734,290	9,307,500	83
Receivables	3,630,820	3,649,250	99
Installment Receivables	814,130	747,010	109

Furniture Stores

Total Sales	350,610	372,560	94
Installment Sales	243,710	257,640	95
Merchandise Stocks	1,806,700	1,773,850	102
Installment Receivables	2,358,910	2,267,180	104

Country Lumber Yards

Sales (Bd. Ft.)	10,300,000	11,076,000	93
Lumber Stocks (Bd. Ft.)	93,483,000	89,615,000	104
Total Sales	\$ 1,588,000	\$ 1,693,500	94
Receivables	3,815,200	3,736,900	102

Life Insurance Sales

Four States	29,189,000	25,732,000	113
Minnesota	20,712,000	18,216,000	114
Montana	3,248,000	2,469,000	132
North Dakota	2,091,000	2,550,000	82
South Dakota	3,188,000	2,497,000	126

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

GENERAL BUSINESS

	April, 1930	April, 1929	Per Cent Apr. '30 of Apr. '29
Investment Dealers			
Sales to Banks	\$ 3,621,100	\$ 1,105,400	328
Sales to Insurance Companies	524,800	1,192,500	44
Sales to General Public	6,707,800	6,304,000	106
Wholesale Trade			
Farm Implements—			
Sales	614,590	723,980	85
Stocks	1,077,230	977,250	110
Receivables	645,500	757,990	85
Groceries—			
Sales	4,202,720	4,208,840	100
Stocks	6,253,410	6,446,820	97
Receivables	5,558,450	5,777,610	96
Hardware—			
Sales	2,144,030	2,287,520	94
Stocks	2,832,140	3,071,120	92
Receivables	2,977,020	3,181,110	94
Shoes—			
Sales	419,900	479,770	88
Stocks	1,302,670	1,604,160	81
Receivables	1,199,980	1,256,840	95

BANKING

Member Bank Deposits			
In Cities Over 15,000 Pop.	\$437,299,000	\$446,721,000	98
In Cities Under 15,000 Pop.	436,835,000	458,119,000	95
Michigan—15 Cos.	63,098,000	64,062,000	98

Member Bank Deposits (continued)

Minnesota	\$164,211,000	\$171,364,000	96
Montana	59,319,000	66,870,000	89
North Dakota	59,689,000	63,338,000	94
South Dakota	60,057,000	61,578,000	98
Wisconsin—26 Cos.	29,961,000	30,907,000	97

Interest Rates²

Minneapolis Banks	5½—5¾%	6 —6¼%
Commercial Paper (net to borrower)	4½%	6¼—6½%
Minneapolis Fed. Res. Bank	4%	5%

Selected City Member Banks

	May 14, 1930	May 15, 1929	
Loans to Customers	\$217,468,000	\$221,116,000	98
Other Invested Funds	146,993,000	146,853,000	100
Deposits Due to Banks	71,944,000	69,105,000	104
Public Demand Deposits	31,337,000	22,463,000	140
Other Demand Deposits	171,056,000	174,246,000	98
Time Deposits	128,911,000	130,822,000	99
Total Deposits	403,462,000	397,351,000	102
Borrowings at Fed. Res. Bank	325,000	11,752,000	8

Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank

Loans to Member Banks	3,923,000	16,367,000	24
Twin Cities	175,000	11,284,000	2
Minn., Wis. and Mich.	899,000	2,409,000	37
No. Dak. and Mont.	1,444,000	1,986,000	73
South Dakota	805,000	690,000	117
Fed. Res. Notes in Circulation	57,510,035	63,386,480	91

¹Daily Averages.²Latest Reported Data.

DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Number of Business Days:	April 1930	March 1930	April 1929	March 1929
Minnesota	25	26	26	25
All Other States in District	26	26	26	26
(000's omitted)				

Michigan

Escanaba (1 bank)	\$ 1,210	\$ 970	\$ 978	\$ 992
Hancock	1,520	1,550	1,995	2,523
Houghton (1 bank)	625	607	760	780
Iron Mountain	4,832	4,985	5,340	5,412
Iron River, Caspian, Stambaugh	1,828	1,872	1,924	1,483
Manistique (1 bank)	663	486	525	449
Marquette	5,033	4,902	5,216	4,009
Menominee	3,636	3,213	3,693	3,346
Sault Ste. Marie	2,785	2,621	2,644	2,678

Minnesota

Albert Lea	3,225	3,056	3,218	3,179
Austin (2 banks)	3,785	3,649	3,374	4,362
Benidji	1,659	1,441	1,526	1,456
Chaska	557	600	535	536
Chisholm	903	783	896	671
Cloquet	2,817	3,249	3,169	4,471
Crookston	1,406	971	1,087	1,117
Detroit Lakes	987	935	924	844
Duluth	62,177	68,702	70,149	68,095
Ely	764	581	844	577
Faribault (1 bank)	1,311	1,182	1,457	1,212
Farmington	240	255	273	245
Fergus Falls	3,279	2,902	3,744	3,114
Glenwood	524	458	463	456
Hatchinson	1,438	1,355	1,589	1,585
Lanesboro	322	268	392	310
Little Falls	995	1,045	1,202	1,035
Luverne	957	1,290	992	1,285
Mankato	6,446	6,267	6,947	6,454
Minneapolis	440,286	427,295	427,505	429,849
Moorhead	2,080	2,240	1,146	993
Morris	589	607	593	575
Owatonna	3,049	3,180	3,089	3,336
Park Rapids	416	468	479	500
Red Wing	2,111	2,305	2,615	2,195
Rochester	5,998	5,677	6,932	5,872
St. Cloud (1 bank)	898	843	411	324
St. Paul	173,673	181,908	179,653	190,062
South St. Paul	29,371	32,857	36,711	36,488
Stillwater	2,514	2,225	2,973	2,630
Thief River Falls	938	801	825	720
Two Harbors	440	559	515	488
Virginia	2,552	2,163	2,637	2,785
Wabasha	821	832	767	751
Wadena	1,059	992	1,064	912
Wheaton	501	578	652	616
Willmar	1,607	1,829	1,376	1,512
Winona	7,321	6,572	7,947	7,351
Worthington (1 bank)	1,008	1,029	983	786

Montana

Anaconda	1,947	1,744	2,692	2,321
Billings	8,236	7,891	9,581	8,359
Bozeman	2,082	2,066	2,273	2,279
Butte (2 banks)	12,985	12,051	14,211	16,920
Deer Lodge	1,446	900	1,464	1,304
Glendive	1,311	1,066	1,367	1,447
Great Falls	15,732	14,116	17,192	15,731
Harlowton	846	383	445	369
Havre (1 bank)	649	580	868	769
Helena	9,672	8,168	11,075	8,432
Lewistown	1,890	2,032	2,421	2,174
Malta	623	556	886	735
Miles City (1 bank)	1,927	1,603	1,915	1,744

North Dakota

Bismarck	14,519	9,760		
Devils Lake	1,636	1,325	1,912	1,849
Dickinson	1,243	1,100	1,640	1,411
Fargo	17,183	16,763	21,596	19,552
Grafton	589	646	467	512
Grand Forks	6,917	7,230	8,083	7,426
Jamestown	2,662	2,793	3,162	2,613
Mandan	1,612	1,691	2,003	1,797
Minot	7,144	5,827	8,709	6,800
Valley City	1,230	1,859	1,292	1,284
Wahpeton	918	1,094	1,067	1,186
Williston	1,402	1,414	1,629	1,618

South Dakota

Aberdeen	5,794	5,554	6,491	5,892
Brookings (1 bank)	1,116	1,150	1,159	1,138
Deadwood	764	817	901	886
Huron	5,383	5,663	5,854	5,299
Lead	1,138	1,174	1,424	1,271
Madison (1 bank)	1,064	1,043	1,032	749
Milbank	499	525	624	613
Mitchell (2 banks)	4,512	4,508	4,800	4,223
Mobridge	692	599	802	625
Pierre	1,220	1,178	1,625	1,262
Rapid City	4,103	8,779	4,135	3,715
Sioux Falls	23,321	23,527	22,360	21,832
Watertown	3,667	3,961	5,624	4,750
Yankton	2,563	2,717	2,960	3,389

Wisconsin

Ashland	2,234	2,197	2,378	2,218
Chippewa Falls	2,277	2,355	2,576	2,732
Eau Claire	8,010	7,013	8,208	7,872
Hudson	616	774	614	789
LaCrosse	11,809	12,861	13,823	14,451
Merrill (1 bank)	1,430	1,490	1,409	1,584
Superior	7,902	8,191	8,906	8,041

Total for All Cities Reporting

Both Years \$984,232 \$979,719 \$1,019,314 \$1,011,931



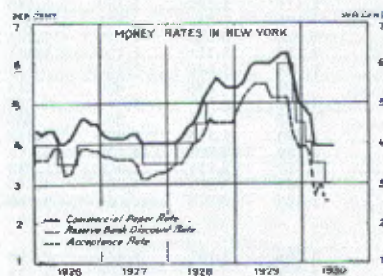
Index number of production of manufactures and minerals combined, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-1925 average=100). Latest figures, April, 106.



Index numbers of factory employment and payrolls, without adjustment for seasonal variations (1923-1925 average=100). Latest figures, April, employment 92.1, payrolls 96.7.



Monthly averages of weekly figures for reporting member banks in leading cities. Latest figures are averages of first 2 weeks in May.



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

Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled May 22 by Federal Reserve Board)

Industrial activity increased slightly in April from the rate prevailing in March. Factory employment declined by the usual seasonal amount, while factory payrolls showed a smaller reduction than usual. Wholesale prices continued to decline in April and the first half of May. There was a further easing of open market money rates.

PRODUCTION: Production in basic industries in April was slightly larger than in March and the Board's index, which makes allowance for the usual seasonal changes, shows an increase of about 2 per cent, offsetting a large part of the decrease in March. The output of automobiles showed the usual seasonal expansion. Steel output declined seasonally in April and the early part of May. The output of silk textiles was considerably reduced, and woolen mills curtailed operations, though less than seasonally. Cotton mills were more active in April, and there was some increase in stocks. In the first half of May, however, a program of curtailment was instituted in the industry.

In comparison with the first four months of 1929, a year of exceptionally active business, production was smaller in almost all major branches of industry with the exception of tobacco. In comparison with 1928, however, output was larger in the automobile, petroleum and silk industries, slightly smaller in steel and coal and considerably smaller in cotton and wool textiles, flour, meat packing, automobile tires and lumber.

Building contracts awarded during April, according to the F. W. Dodge Corporation, were 6 per cent larger than in March, reflecting further expansion in awards for public works and utilities, and some increase in residential construction, largely seasonal in character. In the first two weeks in May, there was a further increase in building activity. In comparison with 1929, awards in the first four months of the year were 17 per cent smaller, reflecting chiefly the continued small volume of residential building, which more than offset increases in public works and in utility construction.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS: Factory employment, which had been decreasing since last September, declined by about 1 per cent in April, which represents the usual development for that month, while the reduction in factory payrolls from March to April was smaller than usual.

DISTRIBUTION: Department store sales increased during the month by an amount estimated to be slightly larger than is accounted for by the late Easter holiday. The value of foreign trade decreased further in April, and for the first four months of the year exports were about 20 per cent smaller than a year ago when trade was exceptionally active. In part, this decline reflected the lower level of wholesale prices.

PRICES: An increase in wholesale prices in the first week in April was followed by a substantial decline which continued into May and brought the level of prices to the lowest point in a number of years. Prices of important raw materials, such as wheat, cotton and silk declined during most of the period, but steadied somewhat around the middle of May, while prices of silver, hides and coffee were comparatively stable. There were fairly continuous price declines in steel, sugar, raw wool and the textiles. Copper prices were reduced further early in May, but recovered somewhat following large purchases for domestic and foreign consumption.

BANK CREDIT: Loans and investments of member banks increased by about \$160,000,000 in the latter half of April, but declined by \$140,000,000 in the first two weeks in May, both movements reflecting chiefly fluctuations in loans on securities. Investments increased further, while "all other" loans continued to decline, and on May 14 at \$8,560,000,000 were the smallest in more than two years. The volume of Reserve bank credit declined further by \$125,000,000 between the weeks ending April 19 and May 17, largely as a result of the addition of about \$65,000,000 to the stock of monetary gold and of a further substantial reduction in the volume of money in circulation, which reflected chiefly the smaller volume of payrolls and declines in retail prices. The System's holdings of bills declined, while United States securities and discounts for member banks showed little change. Money rates on all classes of paper declined further in May. The discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was reduced from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent on May 2, and that at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston from 4 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on May 8.