

# MONTHLY REVIEW

OF

## AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS

IN THE

### NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

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#### DISTRICT SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH

It is now quite fully realized that business in this district has been improving substantially for several months; and it is particularly important to note that in the month of June these gains became general. That many of these increases have probably continued into July is indicated by a considerable increase in the money value of business transacted during the first two weeks of July as compared with the same two weeks a year ago.

We have now reached the most critical period for the crops. Damage to wheat from heat has occurred in the western half of the district. Wild hay and forage crops are heavy and corn is making good progress. Some weeks will be required to determine definitely the outcome; but it is evident that there is growing confidence in the sustained purchasing power of these northwestern states.

Prospective business activity, as indicated by building permits issued during June at eighteen of our representative cities, was much greater than a year ago, and unusually large in valuation as compared with May of this year.

Banks in the larger cities of this district experienced a decline in commercial loans and an increase in demand deposits during June. They increased their non-commercial loans and enlarged their investments and reserve funds. Banks outside of Minneapolis and St. Paul increased their reserve funds and reduced their borrowings by small amounts.

Purchases of securities by the public increased notably, both as compared with last month and a year ago, considerable increases being shown in the sales of foreign securities and of stocks and some declines in city and farm mortgages marketed.

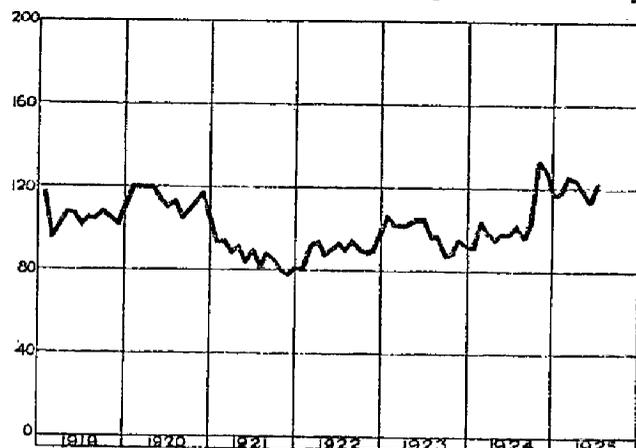
#### TOPICAL REVIEWS

**July 1 Crop Forecasts:** Farmers in this district made greater reductions in their corn and potato acreages than were indicated by the March 1 "intention to plant" figures, according to the reports of Agricultural Statisticians of the United States Department of Agriculture. The flax acreage increased nearly two hundred thousand acres, whereas the March 1 intention figure showed a small re-

duction. The July 1 forecast of corn production is larger than any crop previously harvested, with the exception of the 1923 crop. Spring wheat acreage is nearly 15 percent greater than last year in this district, but it is nearly three hundred thousand acres smaller than the previous five year average. Northwest Regional Advisory Board estimates of the movement of wheat, oats, barley and rye during the first four months of the marketing season, made July 15th, are 193,984 cars as compared with an actual movement for the same period last year of 194,834 cars. The flax movement from Minnesota, Montana, North and South Dakota will be heavier than a year ago.

**Debits to individual accounts** at banks in seventeen of the most important cities of this district were 25 percent larger in June than in the same month last year and larger than in any other June in our seven year record. Duluth-Superior showed the greatest percentage gain, amounting to 52 percent. Other increases were as follows: South St. Paul, 47 percent; Sioux Falls, 39 percent; Minneapolis, 29 percent; the eight wheat belt cities, 19 percent; the three Mississippi Valley cities, 10 percent; and St. Paul, 3 percent.

As compared with the month of May, the June debits showed an increase of 9 percent. Usually



Debits to Individual Accounts at Banks in Sixteen Cities in the Ninth Federal Reserve District by Months, 1919-1925.

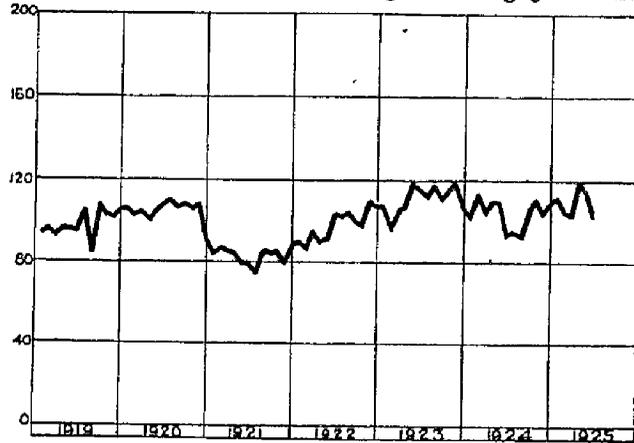
Curve Adjusted to Eliminate Seasonal Changes.

(Debits at South St. Paul not included.)

debits during June are only one percent larger than the May volume of debits.

Debits to individual accounts at banks in seventeen cities were 14 percent larger during the two weeks ending July 15 than during the corresponding two weeks a year ago.

**Carloadings of revenue freight** reported to the American Railway Association by northwestern railroads were 10 percent larger during June this



Freight Carloadings in the Northwestern District by Months, 1919-1925. Curve Adjusted to Eliminate Seasonal Changes.

year than in the same month a year ago. All groups of commodities showed increases, except livestock. The increases were very small, with the exception of merchandise in less-than-carload lots and miscellaneous commodities, which showed increases of about 15 percent and 17 percent, respectively, and ore, which increased 10 percent. As compared with the month of May, carloadings during June were 2 percent larger in the aggregate, with increases in grains and grain products, livestock, coal, merchandise, and miscellaneous commodities, and decreases in ore, forest products and coke. There is usually a 14 percent increase in carloadings in June over the May volume. The smaller increase this year was due to the failure of ore, coal and forest products loadings to show their usual increase.

**Shipments of key commodities** from Minneapolis and St. Paul to the Northwest trade territory in June showed substantially the same increases over 1924 shipments as in previous months of this year. Agricultural implement and vehicle shipments amounted to 520 cars in June, 1925, as compared with 266 cars in June a year ago. Shipments of representative building materials totaled 1,600 cars in June, 1925, as compared with 1,342 cars in June last year. Shipments of automobiles, trucks and tires amounted to 1,059 cars in June this year, as compared with 754 cars in June a year ago.

**JULY 1, 1925, PRODUCTION FORECASTS, AND 1924 PRODUCTION, BY STATES, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE**  
(Bushels, except Hay, which is in Tons; 000's omitted)

	Spring Wheat		Winter Wheat		Oats		Rye		Barley	
	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924
Minn. ....	24,368	34,313	1,640	2,200	149,940	193,500	8,091	11,780	25,907	29,248
Mont. ....	43,982	40,775	3,112	10,983	24,015	19,854	2,184	1,750	4,361	3,100
N. D. ....	103,884	134,618	.....	.....	66,860	93,364	12,983	13,860	32,400	35,100
S. D. ....	27,103	33,018	1,025	1,120	76,320	98,050	2,505	2,956	22,055	22,428
4 states..	199,337	242,724	5,777	14,213	317,135	404,768	25,763	30,346	84,723	89,876
9th F.R.D.	199,821	243,055	6,209	14,921	345,146	432,684				
U. S. ...	275,739	282,636	403,851	590,037	1,292,456	1,541,900	54,104	63,446	208,475	187,875

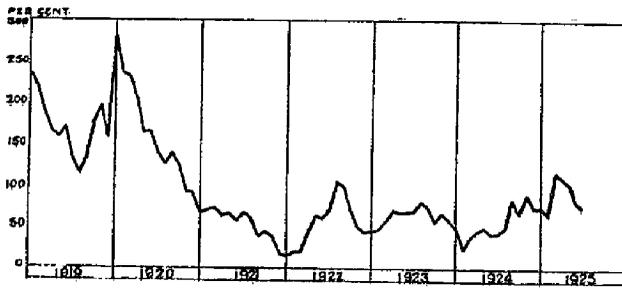
  

	—Corn—		—Flax—		—Potatoes—		—Tame Hay—		—Wild Hay—	
	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924
Minn. ....	140,602	126,336	6,268	8,117	24,676	44,352	3,011	3,501	2,331	2,249
Mont. ....	10,796	9,198	2,395	2,349	4,545	3,256	2,334	2,260	568	588
N. D. ....	22,199	22,740	12,072	14,722	9,047	11,960	1,490*	1,639	2,300*	2,153
S. D. ....	142,789	99,990	4,726	4,299	5,106	5,822	1,592	1,680	2,627	2,487
4 states..	316,386	258,264	25,461	29,487	43,374	65,390	8,427	9,080	7,826	7,477
9th F.R.D.	331,497	268,121			51,025	76,808				
U. S. ...	3,095,176	2,436,513	26,144	30,173	349,566	454,784	78,296	97,970	14,250	14,480

**JULY 1, 1925, ACREAGE ESTIMATES, 1924 ACREAGES, AND 1919-1923 AVERAGE ACREAGES**  
(Acres, 000's omitted)

	—Corn—			—Flax—			—Potatoes—		
	July 1 1925	1924	1919-1923 Average	July 1 1925	1924	1919-1923 Average	July 1 1925	1924	1919-1923 Average
Minn. ....	4,286	4,512	3,676	740	712	352	272	336	393
Mont. ....	485	511	220	324	270	216	38	37	40
N. D. ....	1,023	1,137	649	1,732	1,732	683	111	130	132
S. D. ....	4,636	4,545	3,787	580	483	208	61	71	89
4 states.....	10,430	10,705	8,332	3,376	3,197	1,459	482	574	654
U. S. ....	106,621	105,012	101,956	3,466	3,289	1,499	3,453	3,662	3,853

\*Estimated in this office.



Farm Implement and Vehicle Shipments into the Northwest Trade Territory, Measured by Cars, with Seasonal Changes Removed.

**Shipments of flour and linseed products** were larger in June than in the same month last year. In the case of flour, the increase was only 1 percent, but in linseed products, there was an increase of 69 percent. Shipments of flour were 27 percent larger in June than in May, although the seasonal trend, computed from the records of the last 15 years, is a 6 percent decline. Shipments of linseed products were 10 percent larger in June than in May, with oil cake showing a 27 percent increase and linseed oil a 5 percent decrease.

**Employment conditions**, as measured by advertising in newspapers in Minneapolis and St. Paul, were more favorable to laborers during June this year than in the same month a year ago. In both cities, the number of "help wanted" advertisements was 11 percent larger in June, 1925, than in June, 1924. Also, the number of "situations wanted" advertisements was 31 percent smaller at Minneapolis and only 1 percent greater at St. Paul during June this year than in June a year ago.

**Iron ore shipments** from Upper Lake Ports were 5 percent larger in June than in the same month last year and shipments for the season to July 1 were 24 percent larger than in the corresponding period last year. There was a decrease of 4 percent between the May volume of shipments this year and the June volume.

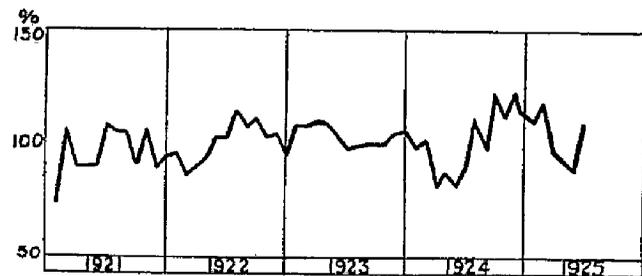
**Coal receipts** were 46 percent larger in June this year than in June a year ago, although receipts of hard coal were 4 percent smaller. Cumulative receipts from the opening of navigation to June 30 were 71 percent larger than receipts in the same period last year, with soft coal receipts 72 percent larger and hard coal receipts 67 percent larger. Receipts of soft coal were larger in June than in May and receipts of hard coal were smaller.

**Copper production** by five important companies in this district was 17 percent larger in June than in the same month a year ago and 5 percent larger than in May this year.

**Wholesale trade** during June and for the six months ending with June showed marked increases over the corresponding periods a year ago, with the exception of sales of wholesale groceries. In the

case of farm implements, especially, the above was true. Sales by seven firms during June, 1925, were 46 percent larger than in June a year ago, and for the six months, farm implements sales were 64 percent larger than last year. Wholesale hardware sales in June were 8 percent larger than in June a year ago, and for the six months, such sales were 7 percent larger. Wholesale drygoods sales exhibited a 21 percent increase in June this year over the same month a year ago and were 14 percent larger for the six months ending with June. Wholesale shoes showed a 48 percent increase in June this year over the same month last year and a 21 percent increase in the six months over the same period a year ago. Wholesale grocery sales, on the other hand, were 2 percent smaller in June than in the same month last year and 1 percent smaller for the six months period ending with June. Sales in all lines were larger in June than in May.

In spite of the marked increase in wholesale trade, there has not been a commensurate increase in accounts and notes receivable reported by wholesalers. Receivables held by farm implement wholesalers and manufacturers on July 1 this year were less than 5 percent greater than on the same date a year ago. Receivables of shoe wholesalers were 13 percent larger than last year on July 1, and dry goods receivables were only 1 percent larger. Wholesale hardware and grocery receivables were 10 percent and 8 percent smaller, respectively, than a year ago.



Sales by Representative Wholesale Dry Goods Firms in the Ninth Federal Reserve District, with Seasonal Changes Removed.

**Department store sales** in this district were 5 percent larger in June than in the same month last year and 4 percent larger than in May of this year. Stocks of merchandise at the end of June were 1 percent larger than a year ago at the end of June, but 6 percent smaller than at the close of May. Since sales increased 5 percent over last year and stocks of merchandise increased only 1 percent, it is apparent that the turnover in June this year was better than the turnover a year ago. Analyzing department store reports by cities, the Duluth-Superior group made the best showing, with sales 12 percent larger in June than a year ago, and an increase over May of nearly 7 percent; whereas a year ago, there was a decrease of 4 percent in June sales as compared with sales during May. Minneapolis, St. Paul, and other stores showed smaller increases in sales

as compared with last year, and decreases as compared with sales in May, although the decreases were not as marked as the declines experienced a year ago.

Retail lumber sales, measured in board feet, were 58 percent larger in this district during June than in the same month last year and 18 percent larger in June than in May. Stocks of lumber in retailers' hands were 3 percent smaller at the close of June than a year ago and 2 percent smaller than stocks at the close of May this year. Sales of all commodities handled by retail lumber yards, measured in dollars, were 38 percent larger in June than in the same month a year ago and 15 percent larger than in May of this year. For the first six months of 1925 these sales by lumber yards, measured in dollars, have been 31 percent greater than in the same six months a year ago. In contrast with this increase is the fact that accounts and notes receivable of these lumber retailers were less than 6 percent larger at the close of June than on the same date last year, denoting a much more satisfactory collection situation, or a larger proportion of cash business, this year.

Building permits at eighteen cities of this district were 46 percent larger in valuation and 6 percent larger in number in June than in the same month a year ago. June permits were 16 percent greater in valuation than permits in May, but 15 percent smaller in number. According to the experience of past years, it is to be expected that the June valuation of permits will be 4 percent smaller than the valuation in May and the number of permits in June will be 18 percent smaller than the number in May.

Building contracts awarded in the Northwest, according to figures compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, were 13 percent larger in value in June this year than in June a year ago. Commercial building contracts were more than four times as large and contracts for public works and utilities were 60 percent larger. On the other hand, residential building showed a reduction of 25 percent and the volume of educational building was 11 percent smaller. The June valuation of contracts awarded was 1 percent smaller than the valuation in May, chiefly on account of a decline of 19 percent in residential building contracts. Contracts for commercial buildings were  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as large, contracts for public works and utilities were 74 percent larger, and educational building contracts were 15 percent larger in June than in May.

The June volume of contracts awarded has brought the northwestern total for the first six months of 1925 to a volume  $2\frac{1}{2}$  percent larger than the volume in the same months of 1924. For the six months period, residential building, commercial building, and social and recreational building contracts were larger than for the first six months a year ago.

Housing facilities in Minneapolis and St. Paul continue to be more adequate than a year ago. Advertisements placed in newspapers by persons seeking dwellings to rent were 25 percent fewer in Minneapolis and 5 percent fewer in St. Paul during June of this year than during June a year ago. At Minneapolis, 6 percent fewer dwellings were offered for rent by means of newspaper advertising during June this year than in the same month a year ago; but at St. Paul, 12 percent more dwellings were offered for rent. At Minneapolis, the number of houses offered for rent showed a greater decline than the number of apartments offered; but at St. Paul, the number of houses offered for rent increased more than the number of apartments so offered.

The number of business failures in this district, as reported by R. G. Dun and Company, was 27 percent larger in June this year than in June a year ago, but 10 percent smaller than in May of this year. The liabilities involved were more than twice as large as in June last year or in May this year. Failures totaled 89 firms in June this year, according to Dun's figures, with liabilities amounting to \$3,342,444.

Receipts of grain at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior were 16 percent larger in June than in the corresponding month last year. Receipts of oats, barley and flax were more than twice as large, and receipts of wheat were 28 percent larger; while receipts of corn and rye were very much smaller. As compared with the month of May, 1925, June grain receipts were 35 percent larger, with marked increases in receipts of all grains except rye. Apparently the increases in receipts of wheat, corn, oats, barley and flax were as large or larger than the customary seasonal increase, and the decline in receipts of rye was greater than the seasonal decrease usually experienced in receipts of this grain.

Grain stocks in terminal elevators at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior were 58 percent larger at the end of June than a year ago. Stocks of oats were almost 23 times as large, with an increase of almost 18 million bushels. Stocks of wheat were nearly 4 million bushels (36%) larger than a year ago. Stocks of barley and flax were also considerably larger than last year. On the other hand, stocks of rye and corn were smaller than last year. The decrease was especially marked in the case of rye, in which grain there was a reduction of nearly 9 million bushels, or 77 percent. Between the end of May and the end of June this year, there was a reduction of 6 percent in total grain stocks at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior, with all grains sharing in the reduction except corn and flax.

Cash grain prices at the Minneapolis market were all much higher during June than a year ago, with the exception of oats, which were selling at a price about 1 cent lower than last year. The median prices of wheat and corn are typical of the situation.

Number 1 Dark Northern wheat sold during June this year at a median price of \$1.68½ as compared with \$1.44 last year, and number 3 Yellow corn sold at a median price of \$1.09¾ in June this year as compared with \$.76½ a year ago. Cash grain prices in June as compared with prices in May showed moderate reductions in the price of wheat, rye, and flax, and small increases in the price of corn, oats, and barley.

Sales of grain futures at Minneapolis were 82 percent larger during June than in the same month a year ago, with increases in sales of all futures except rye. The greatest activity was, of course, in wheat futures, but future sales of oats were 8 times as large as a year ago, and during June were nearly half as large as future sales of wheat. At Duluth there was a much smaller volume of rye future sales during June than in the same month a year ago, which more than counterbalanced increases in future sales of wheat and flax. The June volume of future sales at Minneapolis and Duluth was somewhat larger than the volume of future sales in May, with the most important increases occurring in future sales of oats at Minneapolis and wheat at Duluth.

Livestock Marketing: Receipts of cattle at South St. Paul were 25 percent larger during June than in the same month last year and receipts of calves were 28 percent larger; but receipts of hogs and sheep were 5 percent smaller. There were seasonal declines in receipts of cattle, calves and sheep in June as compared with May, while the volume of hogs received was about the same in the two months.

The feeder movement to the country showed important increases in June over the movement in June a year ago in the case of hogs and sheep; but feeder shipments of cattle and calves were close to the lowest June figures in our 7-year record, although somewhat above the June figures of last year. Feeder shipments of hogs in June were almost double the volume in June a year ago, and feeder sheep shipments were 75 percent larger than in June last year. There were declines in shipments of feeder cattle and calves in June as compared with May and increases in shipments of feeder hogs and sheep.

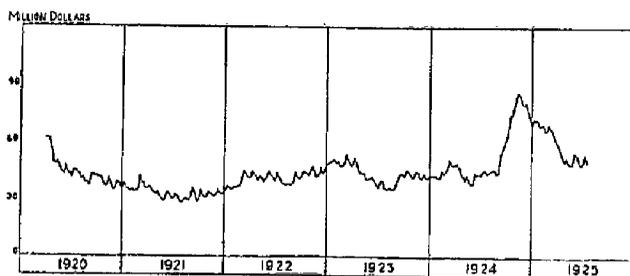
Livestock prices at South St. Paul were all higher during June than prices a year ago, with the exception of the price of stocker and feeder steers. The price of this latter class of livestock has been held down by the lifeless state of the feeder cattle market. During June the median price of feeder steers was 75 cents lower than the price of butcher cows, which is a very unusual occurrence. In fact, the price of feeder steers is usually well above the price of butcher cows, and never before in our record, which extends back through 1917, has the price of feeder steers fallen so far below the price of butcher cows. As compared with prices during May, the June median prices of butcher steers, hogs and lambs increased and the prices of butcher cows, veal calves and stocker and feeder steers decreased.

Important wholesale produce prices at Minneapolis were higher at the end of June than a year ago. The increase was especially marked in the case of eggs, which sold at 32 cents a dozen this year as compared with 25 cents a dozen last year. Four-pound hens sold at 21 cents a pound this year as compared with 19 cents a year ago. Butter sold at 39 cents this year as compared with 38 cents a year ago. Potatoes sold at \$1.60 a hundredweight this year as compared with \$1.50 at the end of May a year ago, which is the best comparison available because old crop potatoes were not quoted at the end of June last year. The prices of eggs and hens were higher at the end of June than at the end of May, and the price of butter was lower. The price of potatoes was the same on both dates.

The livestock and range report of July 1 issued by the United States Department of Agriculture states that improvement has taken place in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana during the month of June, and that ranges and livestock were in better condition on July 1 than a year ago, with the exception of sheep in South Dakota. The greatest improvement has taken place in western North Dakota where the condition of the ranges on July 1 was 96 percent, as compared with 84 percent on June 1, and 90 percent on July 1 a year ago.

The price outlook for the hog industry during the coming year is distinctly favorable, according to a statement recently published by the United States Department of Agriculture. The following quotation, which is the first paragraph of the Department's forecast, gives the gist of the report: "Hogs are just approaching the peak of the price cycle. Short supplies for the next few months point to continued price advances through the late summer. During the next twelve months market receipts will be smaller than at any time since 1921, with prices probably higher than during the last twelve months. Judging from previous experience, these high prices, plus a larger supply of corn this year, probably will stimulate a considerable expansion in hog production during 1926 which would start the price cycle swinging downward once more."

Banking Comments: Our selected group of 25 member banks in cities of this district reported an increase of nearly 11 million dollars in demand deposits between May 27 and July 1. A large part of this increase was due to increases in their deposits held for other banks. There was a decline of 2 millions in time deposits. At the same time, the commercial loans of these banks, as indicated by the item "All other loans" in their report, decreased nearly 9 million dollars. These banks enlarged their loans secured by stock exchange collateral nearly 13 million dollars, and increased their security holdings 3½ millions. Their deposits with the Federal reserve bank and other banks were also enlarged.



Balances Due to Banks at Six Reserve City Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District. Latest Figure, July 15, \$49,267,000.

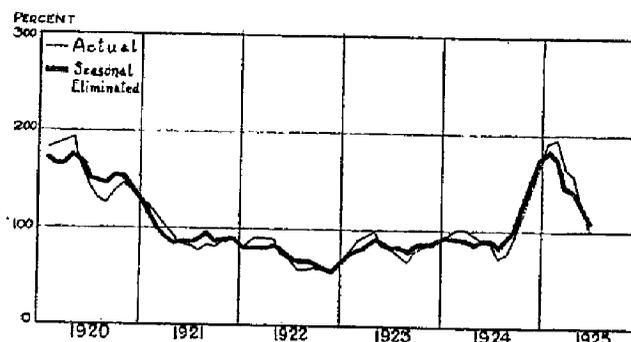
This Federal Reserve Bank experienced an increase of 1 1-3 millions in member bank reserve deposits between May 27 and July 1, and a small decline of one-third of a million dollars in loans to member banks. Federal reserve notes in circulation increased nearly 1 1/2 millions. Purchased bill holdings were enlarged 5 millions during this 5-week period and United States security holdings were reduced 1 1-3 millions. Analyzing member bank borrowings from this bank by areas, it appears that there were declines in all states except South Dakota; and in Minnesota there were increases in loans to Twin City banks, which were more than offset by decreases in loans to banks outside of the Twin Cities.

During the first week of July, our group of 25 city member banks experienced a further decline of 2 million dollars in commercial loans, partly offset by an increase of 1 million dollars in loans secured by stocks and bonds and an increase in security holdings. Demand and time deposits remained practically unchanged and borrowings at the Federal reserve bank were reduced slightly.

During the first two weeks of July, this Federal Reserve Bank experienced a reduction of less than one-half million dollars in loans to member banks and a reduction of 3 1/2 millions in member banks reserve deposits. The reductions in loans to member banks were confined to loans to Twin City and Montana banks, with all other parts of the district showing increases in borrowings.

**Interest rates** on bank loans charged by the four largest commercial banks in Minneapolis averaged 4.76 percent on July 15, as compared with 4.70 percent on June 15 and 5.22 percent on July 15 last year.

**Commercial paper outstanding** in this district was only 19 percent larger on June 30 than the volume a year ago. It will be recalled that a month earlier, the volume of paper outstanding was 39 percent larger than the volume a year before that date, and on January 31 twice the volume of last year was outstanding. There was a decrease in the volume of commercial paper outstanding between May 31 and June 30 of 16 percent, although the seasonal decrease is less than 2 percent.



Commercial Paper Outstanding in the Northwest. Average for 1920 to 1923 Equals 100 Per Cent. Changes in actual volume shown by light line. Changes other than seasonal shown by heavy line.

**Sales of securities** by representative Minneapolis and St. Paul investment firms were 6 percent smaller in June than in the same month last year, due to a smaller volume of trading between the investment firms. Bankers bought the same amount of securities in June this year as they did in June a year ago, and the general public purchased 23 percent more securities than a year ago. June securities sales were 5 percent larger than securities sales in May, with sales to the general public 40 percent larger, sales to bankers 16 percent larger, and sales to other dealers 27 percent smaller.

It is interesting to analyze changes in the volume of securities sales according to the type of securities sold, although the type of securities sold depends to some extent on the type of new offerings. It is more than a casual circumstance, however, that the volume of foreign securities and stocks sales during June were nearly three times as large as the volume of sales of these securities a year ago. There were smaller increases in sales of municipal bonds, public utility bonds, and industrial bonds. On the other hand, sales of farm and city mortgages were 26 and 40 percent smaller respectively than a year ago. Sales of United States Government bonds were only one-fifth as large as in the same month last year, when the volume of sales of these bonds was exceptionally large. June sales, as compared with sales during May, were larger in the case of municipal, United States Government and public utility bonds, foreign securities and stocks, and smaller in the case of farm mortgages, city mortgages, and railroad and industrial bonds.

### CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES, 1923

The essentially agricultural character of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota and the mixed character of activities in Montana, are shown by figures of the United States Biennial Census of Manufactures taken in 1923. Flour and grain-mill products rank first in value among the manufactured products of Minnesota and North Dakota, fourth in Montana and sixth in South Dakota. Slaughtering and meat-packing rank first among

South Dakota manufactures and second in Minnesota. Butter ranks second among North Dakota and South Dakota manufactures and third in Minnesota. There has been a noteworthy reduction in the manufacture of flour and grain-mill products in Minnesota in 1923 as compared with 1921. On the other hand, slaughtering and meat-packing and butter production show marked increases in all of the above states for which figures are published.

In products other than foodstuffs, the output of steam railroad repair shops comes first in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota and third

in Montana. It should be noted also that in the number of wage earners employed, steam railroad repair shops rank above all other manufacturing industries in each of the four states. Lumber and timber products rank fifth in the value of Minnesota products and second in the value of Montana products. The smelting and refining of copper ranks first in the value of Montana manufactured products. The mining enterprises are not included in the Census of Manufactures and, therefore, the value of ore, coal and stone extracted cannot be compared with the value of products manufactured in these states.

FIVE MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRIES IN NORTHWESTERN STATES ACCORDING TO UNITED STATES CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES IN 1923, WITH 1921 FIGURES FOR COMPARISON

MINNESOTA

A. Measured by Value of Products			
	1923	1921	
Flour-mill and grain-mill products .....	\$177,390,781	\$253,669,312	
Slaughtering and meat-packing, wholesale ....	123,570,743	96,424,272	
Butter .....	100,804,301	67,489,266	
Steam-railroad repair shops	40,825,207	33,740,883	
Lumber and timber products .....	28,191,255	28,567,018	
(Logging and saw mill operations)			
B. Measured by Number of Wage Earners			
Steam-railroad repair shops	15,788	12,982	
Lumber and timber products .....	9,184	8,878	
(Logging and saw mill operations)			
Slaughtering and meat-packing, wholesale ....	5,759	5,017	
Foundry and machine-shop products except structural and ornamental iron ...	4,922	3,765	
Flour-mill and grain-mill products .....	4,469	4,668	

MONTANA

A. Measured by Value of Products			
Smelting and refining of copper .....	Figures not published*		
Lumber and timber products .....	\$13,197,338	\$7,119,499	
(Logging and saw mill operations)			
Steam-railroad repair shops	12,706,445	9,656,888	
Flour-mill and grain-mill products .....	12,355,363	11,065,168	
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	3,582,463	3,681,593	
B. Measured by Number of Wage Earners			
Steam-railroad repair shops	5,138	4,106	
Lumber and timber products .....	3,629	2,110	
(Logging and saw mill operations)			
Smelting and refining of copper .....	Figures not published*		
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	540	563	
Smelting and refining of lead .....	Figures not published*		

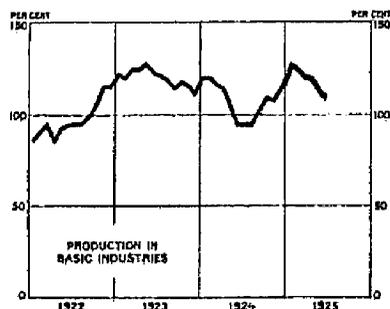
NORTH DAKOTA

A. Measured by Value of Products			
	1923	1921	
Flour-mill and grain-mill products .....	\$18,593,937	\$16,940,251	
Butter .....	10,313,904	7,874,257	
Steam-railroad repair shops	4,216,936	3,249,532	
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	2,141,960	2,376,754	
Bread and other bakery products .....	1,368,869	1,729,467	
B. Measured by Number of Wage Earners			
Steam-railroad repair shops	1,680	1,262	
Flour-mill and grain-mill products .....	453	451	
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	349	381	
Bread and other bakery products .....	202	204	
Butter .....	189	196	

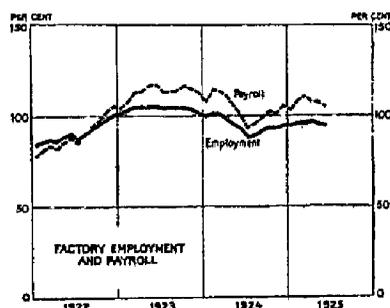
SOUTH DAKOTA

A. Measured by Value of Products			
Slaughtering and meat-packing, wholesale ....	Figures not published*		
Butter .....	\$10,639,543	\$7,238,682	
Steam-railroad repair shops	2,852,890	3,106,907	
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	2,785,762	2,985,920	
Bread and other bakery products .....	2,521,028	2,629,936	
B. Measured by Number of Wage Earners			
Steam-railroad repair shops	1,168	1,210	
Slaughtering and meat-packing, wholesale ....	Figures not published*		
Lumber and timber products .....	721	419	
(Logging and saw mill operations)			
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals .....	489	485	
Bread and other bakery products .....	357	338	

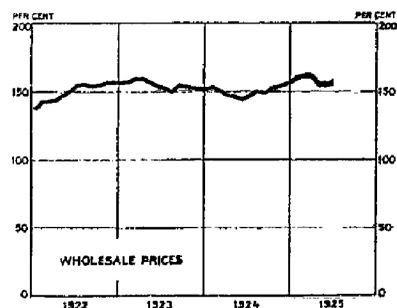
\*The publication of these figures would disclose the operations of individual companies.



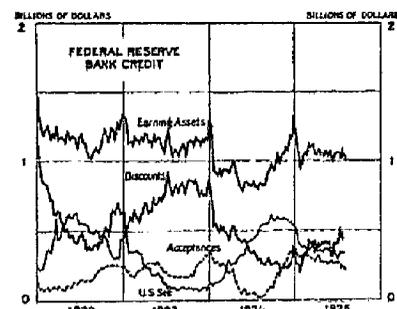
Index of 22 Basic Commodities, Corrected for Seasonal Variations (1919 = 100). Latest Figure, June, 110.



Index for 33 Manufacturing Industries (1919 = 100). Latest Figures, June: Employment, 94; Payroll, 105.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1913 = 100, base adopted by Bureau). Latest Figure, June, 157.



Weekly Figures for 12 Federal Reserve Banks. Latest Figures in Millions, July 22; Total Earning Assets, 1,015; Discounts, 443; Acceptances, 226; United States Securities, 335.

## Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled July 25 by Federal Reserve Board)

Production of basic commodities and factory employment declined further in June, while railway freight shipments and the volume of wholesale trade increased. Wholesale prices, after declining for two months, advanced in June.

**PRODUCTION:** Production in basic industries, as indicated by the Federal Reserve Board's Index, declined about 1 per cent in June to the lowest level since the autumn of 1924, but was 17 per cent above the low point of last summer. Output of pig iron, steel ingots, lumber, newsprint and petroleum, and mill consumption of cotton declined in June, while production of bituminous coal, sole leather, and wheat flour increased. The number of automobiles manufactured during June was slightly less than in May. Factory employment declined 1 per cent and factory payrolls over 2 per cent between May 15 and June 15, reflecting substantial declines in the automobile, boot and shoe, textile and iron and steel industries. Building contracts awarded during June were larger in value than during May and almost equaled the peak figure for April. In square feet of floor space the June awards were a little smaller than those for May. Residential contracts in June were the smallest for any month since February, but greatly exceeded those of a year ago.

The Department of Agriculture estimate of the condition of all crops combined on July 1, showed some improvement from the month before. The corn crop forecast places it at approximately 550,000,000 bushels above last year. The July 15 cotton crop estimate was 13,588,000 bales, compared with a forecast of 14,339,000 bales on June 25.

**TRADE:** Freight car loadings were larger during June than during May, as is usual at that season, and also considerably exceeded the figures for June, 1924, the low point of last year. Sales at department stores during June were seasonally smaller than in May, but totaled 5 per cent more than last year. It should be borne in mind, however, that in June of this year there were four Sundays as compared with five in the preceding month as well as in June, 1924. Mail order sales were 6 per cent larger than in May and exceeded the amount of June, 1924. Sales of wholesale firms were 5 per cent greater than in May and larger than in any June in the last five years. Department store stocks were reduced further in June, but were slightly larger than a year ago. Wholesale stocks of groceries, shoes and hardware were smaller at the end of June than a month earlier, but those of dry goods and drugs were larger. Compared with a year ago, stocks of groceries and drugs were larger in value while stocks of dry goods, shoes, and hardware were smaller.

**PRICES:** Wholesale commodity prices advanced 1.4 per cent in June, according to the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, following declines in April and May. The largest increase for any commodity group was for the miscellaneous group which includes crude rubber. Prices of farm products, foods, and fuel and lighting also advanced, while prices of building materials declined considerably. In the first half of July quotations on flour, beef, hogs, wool, copper, petroleum, hides, and rubber increased, while prices of sugar, bituminous coal, and hardwood lumber declined.

**BANK CREDIT:** At member banks in leading cities the volume of loans on securities continued to increase after the middle of June and during the first half of July was at a higher level than at any previous time. Demand for bank credit for commercial purposes was relatively inactive and the volume of commercial loans at reporting member banks remained near the low level for this year, although considerably above the amount for the corresponding period in 1924.

At the reserve banks the seasonal demand for credit and currency was reflected in increased borrowing by member banks which carried discounts at the beginning of July to the highest level in more than a year, and, notwithstanding the subsequent decline the total on July 22 was still at a relatively high level. Total earning assets on that date showed little change as compared with the figures for four weeks earlier.

Firmness in the money market at the close of the fiscal year was followed by an easing of money after the first week of July. In the latter part of the month there was again evidence of firmer money conditions. These changes were reflected chiefly in the movement of rates for call money, quoted rates on prime commercial paper and on bankers acceptances remaining throughout the period at  $3\frac{3}{4}$  to 4 per cent and  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent.