

MONTHLY REVIEW

OF

AGRICULTURAL AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS

IN THE

NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

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Vol. IV (Serial)
No. 180

Minneapolis, Minnesota

December 28, 1929

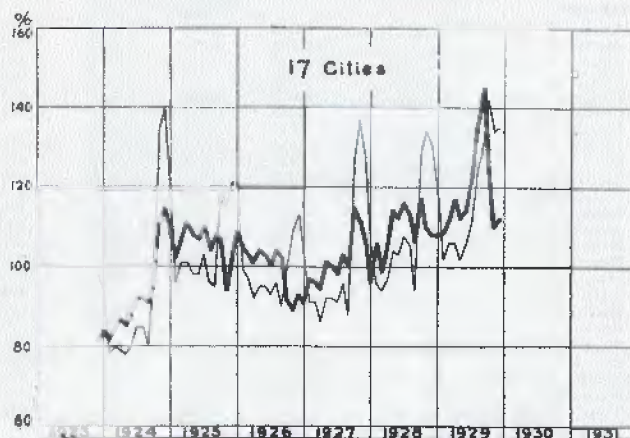
DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BUSINESS

The volume of business in the district during November was about as large as in November last year. Debits to individual accounts were 3 per cent larger than in November a year ago, with increases occurring at Minneapolis, St. Paul, South St. Paul and several of the other cities in the district, especially in rural Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota. Decreases in individual debits predominated in Montana, North Dakota, the Head-of-the-Lakes and the lumbering and mining regions. Only twenty-five cities out of the sixty-eight reporting cities showed increases in individual debits over the figures for November last year. This is the smallest number of cities showing increases which has occurred during the present calendar year.

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

| | First Quar. | Sec. Quar. | Third Quar. | Oct. 1929 | Nov. 1929 |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Duluth | 105 | 90 | 127 | 69 | 86 |
| Minneapolis | 114 | 100 | 128 | 108 | 110 |
| St. Paul | 104 | 103 | 110 | 104 | 105 |
| South St. Paul | 97 | 110 | 102 | 103 | 103 |
| Rural Minnesota ... | 104 | 105 | 111 | 111 | 104 |
| Montana | 115 | 116 | 124 | 94 | 95 |
| No. Michigan | 115 | 109 | 107 | 104 | 99 |
| North Dakota | 115 | 111 | 105 | 93 | 84 |
| South Dakota | 110 | 108 | 108 | 105 | 103 |
| N. W. Wisconsin... | 107 | 113 | 109 | 94 | 92 |
| Ninth District | 110 | 103 | 120 | 100 | 103 |

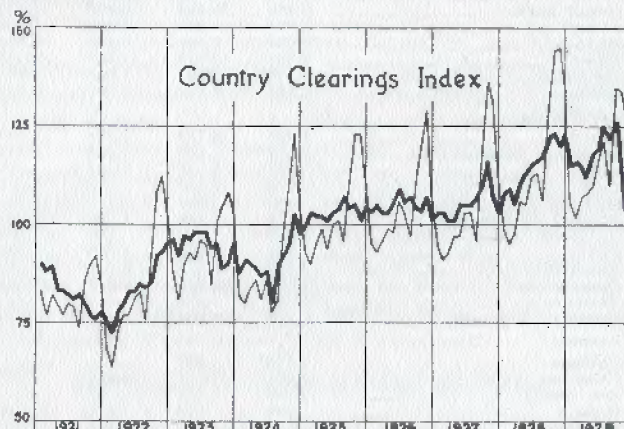
Freight traffic in November in the northwestern district was 9 per cent below the totals for November last year, with decreases occurring in carloadings of grains and grain products, forest products, ore and miscellaneous freight. The country check clearings index was 13 per cent lower in November this year than in November a year ago. Postal receipts, flour shipments, building contracts, life insurance sales, department store sales and wholesale trade were larger in November than in the same month last year. Building permits, shipments of linseed products, flour production, country lumber sales and copper and iron mining activity were under last year's figures in November. In spite of the small shipments of iron ore during October and November, the season's total of iron ore shipments



Debits to Individual Accounts in Seventeen Cities in the Ninth Federal Reserve District. The heavy curve is adjusted to eliminate seasonal changes; the light curve represents unadjusted figures as percentages of the average month.

made a new high record of 65,204,000 tons. Business failures were fifty-three in number during November, as compared with fifty-five in November last year, according to the reports of R. G. Dun & Company.

During the first half of December, debits to individual accounts at seventeen cities were 4 per cent larger than in the corresponding period last



Country Check Clearings Index for the Ninth Federal Reserve District. The light curve represents figures without seasonal adjustments. The heavy curve represents figures with seasonal adjustments.

**DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS IN THE
NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT**
(November, 1929, with comparisons)

| Number of Business Days: | November 1929 | October 1929 | November 1928 | October 1928 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Wisconsin | 25 | 27 | 24 | 27 |
| Montana and North Dakota | 24 | 26 | 23 | 26 |
| Other States in District..... | 24 | 27 | 23 | 27 |
| (000's omitted) | | | | |
| Michigan | | | | |
| Escanaba (1 Bank)..... | \$ 918 | \$ 996 | \$ 884 | \$ 1,043 |
| Hancock | 2,135 | 2,107 | 2,170 | 2,568 |
| Houghton (1 Bank)..... | 657 | 771 | ..... | ..... |
| Iron Mountain | 4,097 | 4,626 | 4,360 | 4,273 |
| Iron River, Caspian and Stam- baugh | 1,720 | 1,825 | 1,839 | 1,574 |
| Manistique (1 Bank)..... | 550 | 524 | ..... | ..... |
| Marquette | 5,868 | 6,223 | 5,080 | 6,062 |
| Menominee | 3,155 | 3,575 | 3,304 | 3,331 |
| Sault Ste. Marie | 3,050 | 3,516 | 2,765 | 3,171 |
| Minnesota | | | | |
| Albert Lea | 3,349 | 3,538 | 2,451 | 2,506 |
| Austin (2 Banks)..... | 4,593 | 4,874 | 5,028 | 4,732 |
| Chaska | 948 | 759 | 846 | 652 |
| Chisholm | 1,185 | 914 | 1,148 | 788 |
| Cloquet | 3,071 | 2,659 | 2,387 | 2,474 |
| Crookston (1 Bank)..... | 1,253 | 1,533 | 1,877 | 1,432 |
| Detroit Lakes | 940 | 1,141 | ..... | ..... |
| Duluth | 104,645 | 113,133 | 117,112 | 163,279 |
| Ely | 777 | 740 | 706 | 671 |
| Glenwood | 531 | 555 | 545 | 568 |
| Hutchinson | 1,625 | 1,545 | 1,341 | 1,476 |
| Little Falls | 1,557 | 1,320 | 1,494 | 1,134 |
| Mankato | 7,426 | 7,895 | 7,213 | 7,400 |
| Minneapolis | 538,583 | 613,652 | 468,611 | 567,042 |
| Morris | 721 | 823 | 723 | 771 |
| Owatonna | 2,982 | 3,311 | 2,731 | 2,923 |
| Park Rapids | 459 | 527 | 603 | 602 |
| Red Wing | 2,719 | 2,908 | 2,482 | 2,692 |
| Rochester | 7,166 | 7,007 | 7,109 | 7,258 |
| St. Cloud (1 Bank)..... | 509 | 480 | 569 | 453 |
| St. Paul | 201,605 | 211,192 | 183,886 | 203,685 |
| South St. Paul | 45,915 | 47,499 | 42,538 | 45,892 |
| Stillwater | 2,900 | 4,064 | ..... | ..... |
| Thief River Falls | 1,476 | 1,289 | 957 | 987 |
| Virginia | 2,555 | 2,468 | ..... | ..... |
| Wabasha | 800 | 972 | 775 | 937 |
| Wadena | 1,373 | 1,471 | 1,352 | 1,347 |
| Wheaton | 727 | 706 | ..... | ..... |
| Willmar | 1,854 | 2,235 | ..... | ..... |
| Winona | 9,277 | 9,193 | 8,360 | 9,097 |
| Worthington (1 Bank)..... | 887 | 977 | 847 | 896 |
| Montana | | | | |
| Billings | 11,478 | 14,523 | 11,779 | 15,282 |
| Bozeman | 2,976 | 3,499 | 2,845 | 3,500 |
| Butte (2 Banks)..... | 15,202 | 15,715 | 14,501 | 14,317 |
| Deer Lodge | 1,353 | 1,403 | 1,606 | 1,478 |
| Glendive | 1,617 | 1,898 | 1,654 | 2,452 |
| Great Falls | 21,674 | 24,937 | 21,679 | 26,259 |
| Helena | 12,062 | 12,263 | 10,669 | 13,885 |
| Lewistown | 3,178 | 3,808 | 4,558 | 4,849 |
| Miles City (1 Bank)..... | 2,984 | 3,636 | 3,505 | 4,290 |
| North Dakota | | | | |
| Bismarck | 5,034 | 6,442 | 5,071 | 5,866 |
| Devils Lake | 2,208 | 2,820 | 2,508 | 3,117 |
| Dickinson | 1,570 | 2,038 | 2,295 | 2,857 |
| Fargo | 19,886 | 24,590 | 21,417 | 27,219 |
| Grand Forks | 9,160 | 10,654 | 10,173 | 12,760 |
| Jamestown | 2,854 | 4,052 | 3,425 | 3,705 |
| Mandan | 2,039 | 2,341 | 2,255 | 2,526 |
| Minot | 8,639 | 12,117 | 11,723 | 13,424 |
| Wahpeton | 1,157 | 1,507 | 1,064 | 1,387 |
| Williston | 2,120 | 3,353 | 2,297 | 3,103 |
| South Dakota | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 7,329 | 8,784 | 7,791 | 9,382 |
| Brookings (1 Bank)..... | 1,304 | 1,486 | 1,298 | 1,544 |
| Huron | 5,824 | 6,476 | 5,454 | 6,357 |
| Lead | 1,175* | 1,406 | 1,150* | 1,401 |
| Madison (1 Bank)..... | 980 | 999 | ..... | ..... |
| Mitchell (2 Banks)..... | 4,706 | 5,143 | 4,190 | 4,792 |
| Mobridge | 854 | 898 | 997 | 1,069 |
| Pierre | 1,580 | 1,646 | 1,549 | 1,747 |
| Rapid City | 4,712 | 6,176 | 4,628 | 6,985 |
| Sioux Falls | 22,190 | 24,710 | 19,369 | 21,698 |
| Watertown | 5,240 | 5,664 | 5,011 | 4,850 |
| Yankton (4 Banks)..... | 2,576 | 2,918 | 2,291 | 2,530 |
| Wisconsin | | | | |
| Ashland | 2,000* | 1,237 | ..... | ..... |
| Chippewa Falls | 2,600 | 3,077 | 2,836 | 2,947 |
| Eau Claire | 7,964 | 8,631 | ..... | ..... |
| Hudson | 622 | 658 | 617 | 616 |
| LaCrosse | 12,700 | 14,532 | 12,900 | 14,195 |
| Merrill (1 Bank)..... | 1,406 | 1,586 | 1,473 | 1,604 |
| Superior | 8,632 | 9,470 | 9,294 | 11,946 |

Total for all Cities Reporting
Both Years \$1,178,265 \$1,312,894 \$1,099,815 \$1,310,112

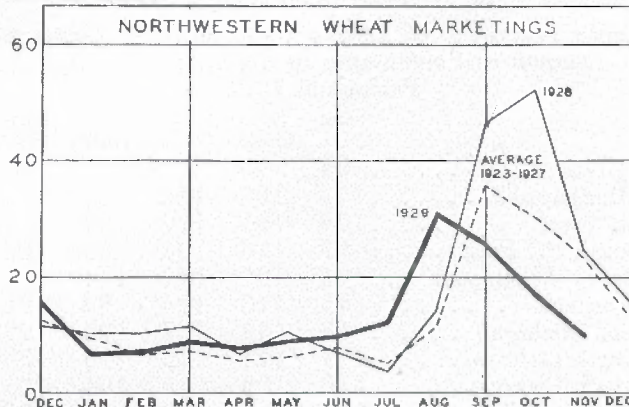
*Estimated.

year, but country check clearings were 13 per cent smaller than last year's figures, and the daily average of building contracts awarded was only \$125,600, as compared with \$153,100 which was the daily average for December, 1928.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURE

After the passing of the heavy marketing period of the 1929 wheat crop, attention may be again directed to the peculiarity of the marketing movement this fall. The peak of the marketing movement occurred in August instead of in September or October as in former years. This early peak of marketing was partly due to the heavy carry-over from the 1928 crop which came to market in July and August, and partly to the early harvest season this year and the greater use of combine harvesters in the Northwest. Although the northwestern wheat crop was small this year, the early wheat marketing created unusually large business totals in July and August, and afforded an opportunity for early repayment of debt this fall. Borrowings from this Federal Reserve Bank by banks in the spring wheat belt began to decline after the middle of July, although usually they continue to increase until the latter part of August. Similarly, the accounts receivable of reporting country lumber yards in the Northwest showed a smaller increase than usual during August and September.

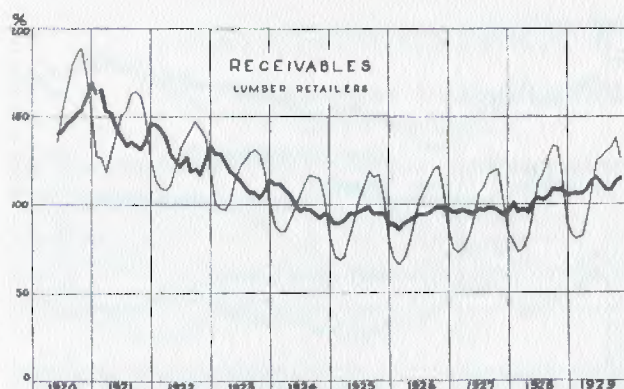
MILLION BUSHELS



Marketings of Northwestern Wheat at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior, excluding southwestern wheat and duplications in the record of receipts.

More recently the smallness of the crop has had an adverse effect on business. This is indicated by reductions in debits to individual accounts and other series reflecting the volume of business in the spring wheat belt, and by an earlier than usual winter upturn of Federal reserve loans to banks in the spring wheat belt.

A normal proportion of the 1929-30 wheat supplies in the Northwest had been marketed by the end of November. The wheat supplies for the current year may be computed by adding to the four-state crop the stocks of wheat carried over from the preceding crop and deducting the quantity of wheat required for seed in the succeeding spring.



Accounts and Notes Receivable of Country Lumber Retailers at the end of each Month, 1920-1929. The heavy curve is adjusted to eliminate seasonal changes. The light curve represents unadjusted figures as percentages of the average month.

By November 30, wheat marketings during the current crop year amounted to 52 per cent of the marketable wheat supply, as compared to 53 per cent on the corresponding date last year and a four-year average percentage for the same date of 52 per cent. The following table gives the detailed figures from which these percentages were computed.

Northwestern Wheat Supplies and Marketings

(In bushels, 000's omitted)

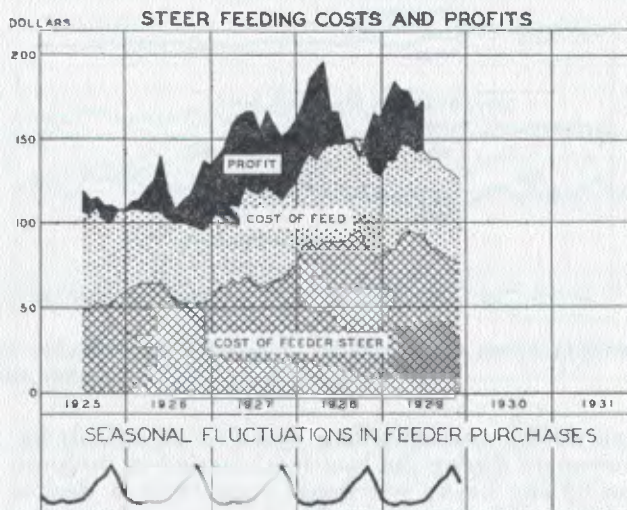
| | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Four-state Crop | 209,503 | 158,247 | 276,710 | 278,642 | 177,828 |
| July 1 Stocks on Farms.. | 10,413 | 6,076 | 6,096 | 8,878 | 18,195 |
| July 1 Stocks in Country | | | | | |
| Mills and Elevators.... | 10,000* | 8,000* | 8,183 | 7,890 | 15,935 |
| Total Wheat Supplies.... | 229,916 | 172,323 | 290,989 | 295,410 | 211,958 |
| Used for Seed..... | 25,604 | 28,344 | 29,195 | 27,546 | 28,000* |
| Available for Marketing | | | | | |
| and Feed | 204,312 | 143,979 | 261,794 | 267,864 | 183,958 |
| Marketed at Minneapolis | | | | | |
| and Head-of-Lakes July- | | | | | |
| November | 100,899 | 69,441 | 152,158 | 141,066 | 95,509 |
| Per cent Marketed July- | | | | | |
| November | 49% | 48% | 58% | 53% | 52% |

*Estimated

The hog situation at the end of November was complicated by conflicting forces. Stocks of pork and other meats were larger than a year ago and larger than the five-year average, but the spring pig crop was smaller this year than a year ago. November hog prices at South St. Paul were 3 per cent higher than in the same month last year. The corn yield, especially in southeastern South Dakota, was better in the Northwest than the average United States yield in 1929.

More cattle were shipped into the corn belt feeding states this fall than in any of the preceding four years. Prices of feeder cattle have been lower this fall than a year ago. The cost of a nine hundred pound feeder steer at South St. Paul, together with sufficient feed for a five-months' feeding period, averaged \$131 during September, October and November this year. Last year during the same months the average was \$141. In other words, from the standpoint of costs, the cattle feeder has a ten dollar advantage this year over a year ago. The

history of cattle feeding profits per head in recent years is shown in the accompanying chart. At the bottom of the chart is illustrated the seasonal fluctuations in feeder steer buying to indicate the relative importance of the profit index at different times of year.



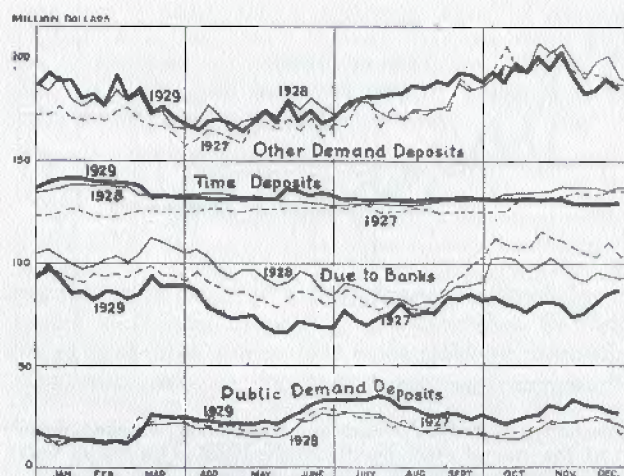
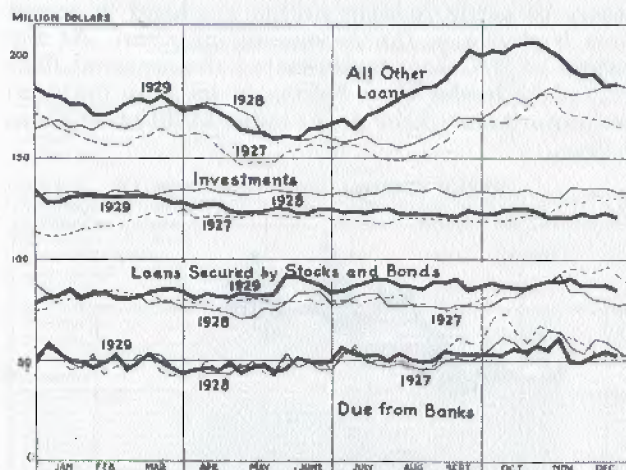
Steer Feeding Costs and Profits in the Northwest. The curve at the bottom of the chart illustrates the seasonal fluctuations in purchases of feeder steers at South St. Paul, and indicates the relative importance of the profit index at different times of year.

Butter prices declined during November contrary to the usual seasonal trend and were eight cents a pound lower than a year ago. Stocks of butter in the United States on December 1 totaled 111,617,000 pounds, which was 41 million pounds more than storage holdings last year and 33 million pounds more than the five-year average on the same date. Furthermore, the seasonal reduction in stocks of butter during November was smaller this year than in other recent years, indicating that a larger than usual proportion of consumption requirements were being supplied from current production.

In November, decreases occurred in the farm income from cash grains, hogs and dairy products, and an increase was shown for potatoes. The combined income from the above sources was 29 per cent less than in November last year. Our monthly record of dairy income has been moved forward one month to reflect the fact that payments for butterfat are usually made in the month following delivery. Prices of wheat, corn, oats, flax, eggs, potatoes and hogs were higher in November than a year ago. Prices of rye, butter, milk, hens, cattle and lambs were lower than a year ago.

DISTRICT SUMMARY OF BANKING

City banks in this district were able to reduce their borrowings from this Federal Reserve Bank by 9 million dollars during the four weeks ending December 18. The borrowings of these city banks on the latter date were only 9 million dollars larger



Principal Assets and Liabilities of Selected City Member Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District, as Reported Weekly in 1927, 1928 and 1929.

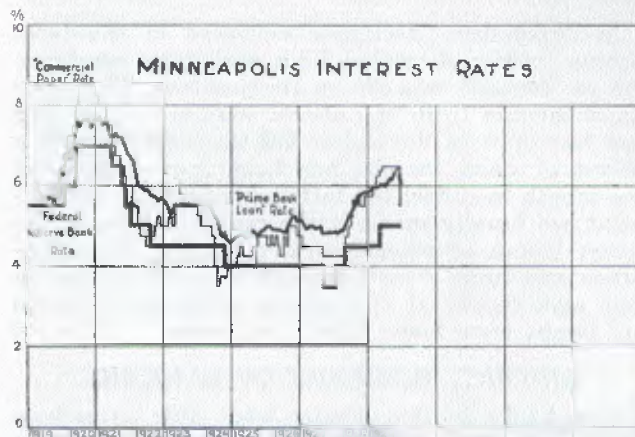
than on the corresponding date last year. This improvement during the four-week period in the position of city banks was made possible by a decline in loans to customers and an increase in total deposits. Investment holdings of these city banks increased slightly during the four-week period. On December 18, investments and total deposits of these city banks were lower than a year ago and commercial loans were about as large as last year's total.

Analyzing changes in deposits of city banks by classes, decreases occurred in deposits of public funds, deposits "due to banks" increased and other deposits showed little change during the four weeks ending December 18. On the latter date, all classes of deposits, except public funds, showed decreases from last year's figure.

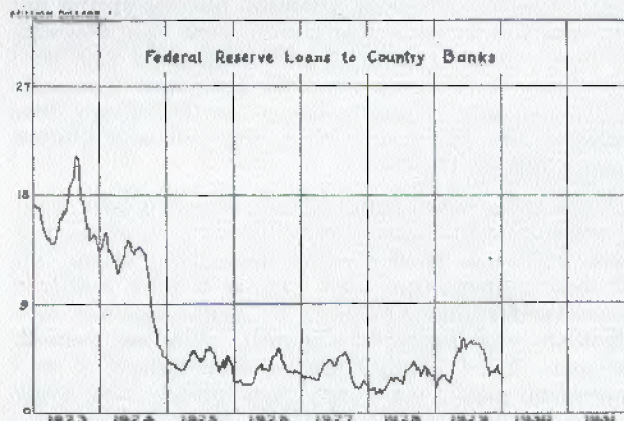
In the Minneapolis money market, the larger commercial banks reduced their average interest rates to prime customers one-half of 1 per cent dur-

ing the month ending December 15. The commercial paper rate declined 1 per cent during the month of November, which was the largest decrease in any one month during the post-war period. This drop in the commercial paper rate brought this rate back to its customary position between the commercial bank lending rate and the Federal reserve bank discount rate. The discount rate of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank remained unchanged at 5 per cent.

Country member banks experienced a reduction of 1 per cent in deposits during November. This reduction cancelled more than half of the seasonal gain which had been added to their deposits during the preceding two months. In November, their deposits were 6 per cent lower than a year ago. Country bank borrowings outside of the larger city banks increased from the seasonal low point reached on October 16 to a minor peak on November 27. This increase was practically cancelled during the succeeding two weeks. On December 18, country member banks in this district were borrowing only \$252,000 more than a year ago at the same time.



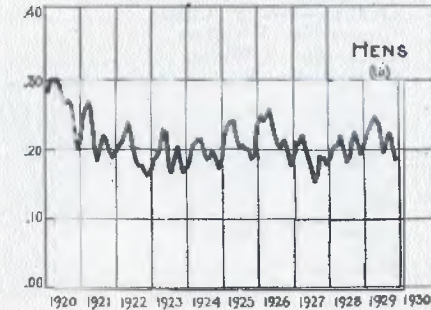
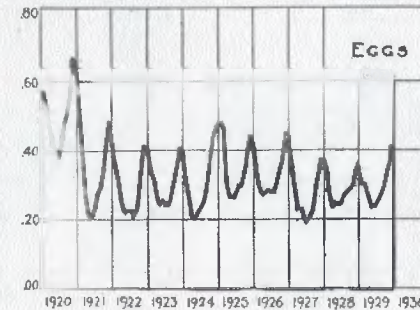
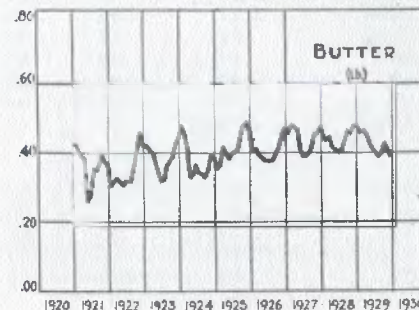
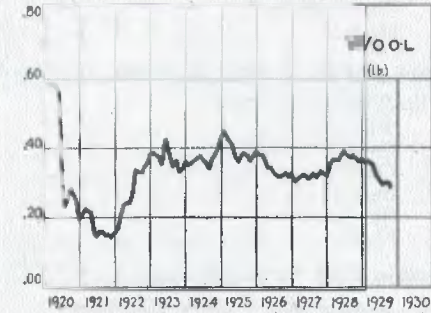
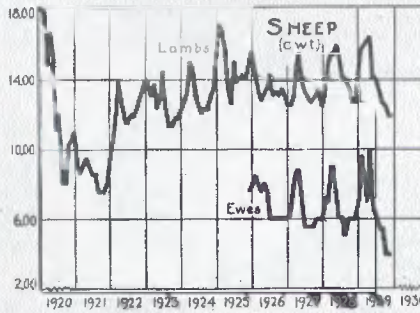
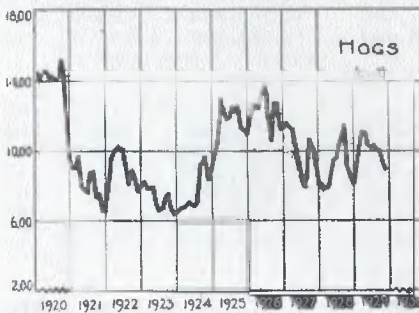
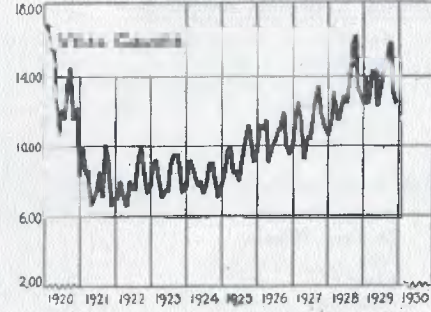
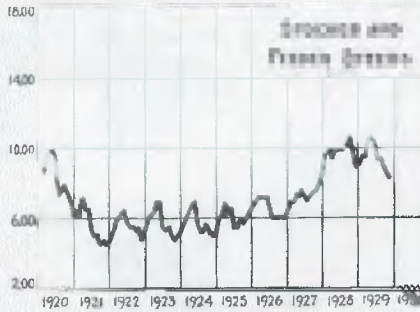
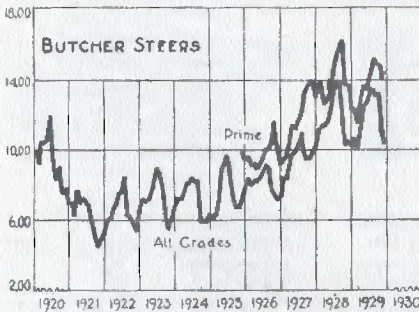
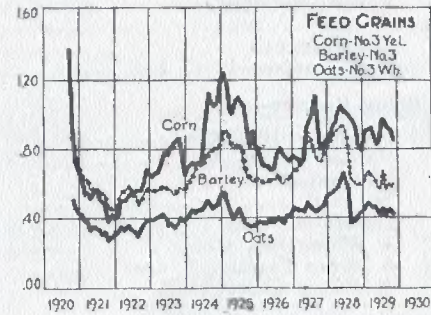
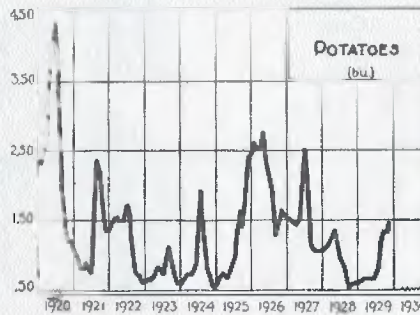
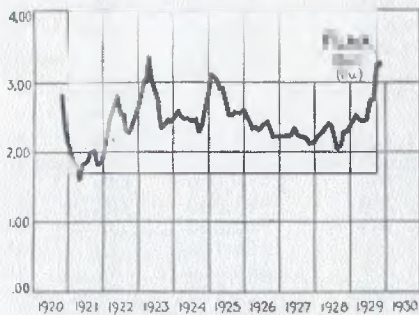
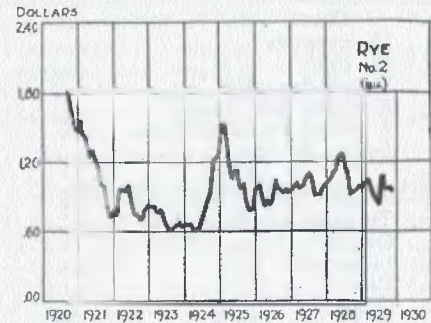
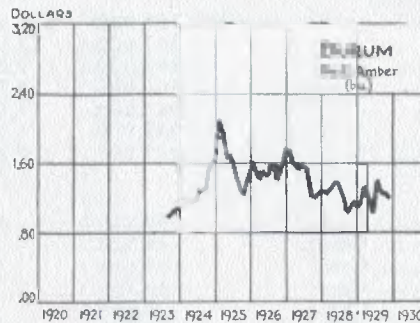
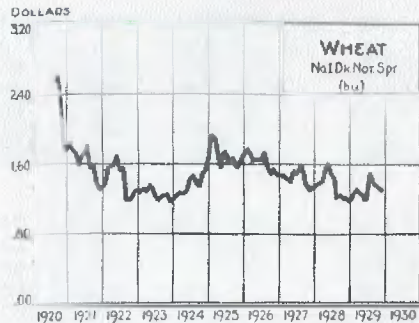
Interest Rates at Minneapolis on Prime Bank Loans and Commercial Paper and the Discount Rate at the Federal Reserve Bank, 1919-1929.



Federal Reserve Loans to Country Banks in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

NORTHWESTERN FARM PRODUCT PRICES

(Price per bushel, hundredweight, pound or dozen)

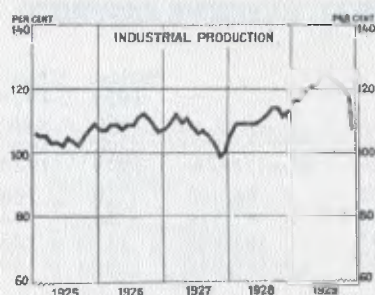


COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF BUSINESS IN THE NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

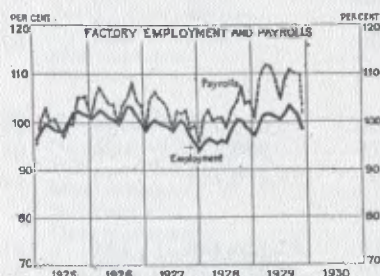
| | | | | %Nov. 1929 of Oct. 1929 | %Nov. 1929 of Nov. 1928 |
|---|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Debits to Individual Accounts, Daily Averages—Unit | | | | | |
| 17 Cities | Nov., 1929 | Oct., 1929 | Nov., 1928 | | |
| Minneapolis | \$42,358,000 | \$42,034,000 | \$40,935,000 | 101 | 103 |
| St. Paul | 22,367,000 | 22,599,000 | 20,314,000 | 99 | 110 |
| Duluth-Superior | 8,400,000 | 7,822,000 | 7,995,000 | 107 | 105 |
| 8 Wheat Belt Cities | 4,705,000 | 4,541,000 | 5,479,000 | 105 | 86 |
| 4 Mixed Farming Cities | 3,041,000 | 3,412,000 | 3,447,000 | 89 | 88 |
| South St. Paul | 1,932,000 | 1,901,000 | 1,851,000 | 102 | 104 |
| | 1,913,000 | 1,759,000 | 1,849,000 | 109 | 103 |
| Carloadings—Northwestern District— | | | | | |
| Total—Excluding L. C. L. Cars | 399,155 | 605,216 | 439,970 | 66 | 91 |
| Grains and Grain Products | 44,320 | 57,645 | 65,795 | 77 | 67 |
| Livestock | 39,066 | 45,188 | 37,432 | 86 | 104 |
| Coal | 40,715 | 37,350 | 38,275 | 109 | 106 |
| Coke | 6,665 | 6,941 | 5,474 | 96 | 122 |
| Forest Products | 57,510 | 68,876 | 67,662 | 83 | 85 |
| Ore | 50,774 | 159,614 | 60,871 | 32 | 83 |
| Miscellaneous | 160,105 | 229,602 | 164,461 | 70 | 97 |
| Merchandise—L. C. L. Cars | 135,859 | 152,174 | 137,463 | 89 | 99 |
| Building Permits— | | | | | |
| Number—18 Cities | 1,029 | 1,763 | 1,233 | 58 | 83 |
| Value—18 Cities | \$ 2,988,700 | \$ 3,870,100 | \$ 4,006,200 | 77 | 75 |
| Minneapolis | 1,298,200 | 1,028,700 | 1,715,200 | 126 | 76 |
| St. Paul | 798,200 | 715,200 | 995,000 | 112 | 80 |
| Duluth-Superior | 384,100 | 512,300 | 340,000 | 75 | 113 |
| 4 Wheat Belt Cities | 173,800 | 927,000 | 255,700 | 19 | 68 |
| 6 Mixed Farming Cities | 266,200 | 594,500 | 683,800 | 45 | 39 |
| 4 Mining Cities | 68,200 | 92,400 | 16,500 | 74 | 413 |
| Building Contracts Awarded— | | | | | |
| Total | 9,967,300 | 4,295,200 | 5,764,000 | 232 | 173 |
| Residential | 1,056,200 | 1,423,700 | 2,119,300 | 74 | 50 |
| Commercial & Industrial | 4,986,100 | 1,005,000 | 2,173,500 | 496 | 229 |
| Public Works & Utilities | 3,245,600 | 904,100 | 743,900 | 359 | 436 |
| Educational | 491,300 | 497,500 | 275,300 | 99 | 178 |
| All Other | 188,100 | 464,900 | 452,000 | 40 | 42 |
| Cash Value of Farm Products Sold— | | | | | |
| Bread Wheat | 10,206,000 | 19,100,000 | 23,240,000 | 53 | 44 |
| Durum Wheat | 3,510,000 | 5,363,000 | 8,916,000 | 65 | 39 |
| Rye | 855,000 | 1,440,000 | 1,555,000 | 59 | 55 |
| Flax | 3,639,000 | 10,179,000 | 5,828,000 | 36 | 62 |
| Potatoes | 3,002,000 | 10,716,000 | 1,701,000 | 28 | 176 |
| Dairy Products | 15,388,000 | 17,117,000 | 17,305,000 | 90 | 89 |
| Hogs | 16,554,000 | 12,295,000 | 16,686,000 | 135 | 99 |
| Grain Stocks at End of Month at Minneapolis and Duluth-Superior— | | | | | |
| Wheat | Bu. 56,679,933 | 62,673,039 | 50,776,608 | 90 | 112 |
| Corn | Bu. 22,602 | 78,648 | 115,690 | 29 | 20 |
| Oats | Bu. 8,117,714 | 8,016,011 | 2,517,615 | 101 | 322 |
| Barley | Bu. 5,536,832 | 5,612,145 | 3,034,047 | 99 | 182 |
| Rye | Bu. 5,596,758 | 5,531,452 | 2,187,534 | 101 | 256 |
| Flax | Bu. 594,518 | 1,125,993 | 1,632,946 | 53 | 36 |
| Median Cash Grain Prices— | | | | | |
| Wheat—No. 1 Dark Northern | Bu. \$1.30½ | \$1.32 | \$1.23¾ | 99 | 106 |
| Durum—No. 2 Amber | Bu. 1.18½ | 1.24½ | 1.12 | 95 | 106 |
| Corn—No. 3 Yellow | Bu. .85½ | .91½ | .82 | 94 | 104 |
| Oats—No. 3 White | Bu. .43 | .44 | .41½ | 98 | 104 |
| Barley—No. 3 | Bu. .59 | .58 | .59 | 102 | 100 |
| Rye—No. 2 | Bu. .95 | .97 | .99 | 98 | 96 |
| Flax—No. 1 | Bu. 3.25½ | 3.30½ | 2.32¾ | 98 | 140 |
| Wholesale Produce Prices— | | | | | |
| Butter | Lb. .40 | .42½ | .48 | 94 | 83 |
| Milk | Cwt. 2.42 | 2.50 | 2.60 | 97 | 93 |
| Hens—4½ Pounds | Lb. .17½ | .20 | .19½ | 88 | 90 |
| Eggs | Doz. .41½ | .37¼ | .35 | 111 | 119 |
| Potatoes | Bu. 1.50 | 1.50 | .60 | 100 | 250 |

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

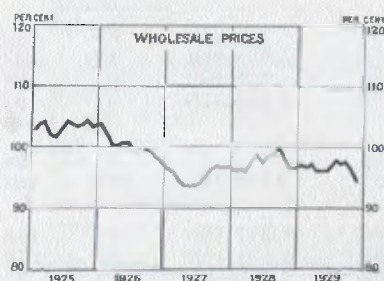
| | | Nov., 1929 | Oct., 1929 | Nov., 1928 | %Nov. 1929 of Oct. 1929 | %Nov. 1929 of Nov. 1928 |
|---|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Livestock Receipts at South St. Paul— | | | | | | |
| Cattle | Head | 97,476 | 123,905 | 90,060 | 79 | 108 |
| Calves | Head | 44,373 | 52,748 | 47,346 | 84 | 94 |
| Hogs | Head | 381,343 | 325,533 | 305,248 | 117 | 125 |
| Sheep | Head | 197,371 | 297,447 | 158,842 | 66 | 124 |
| Median Livestock Prices at South St. Paul— | | | | | | |
| Butcher Cows | Cwt. | \$7.00 | \$7.50 | \$8.25 | 93 | 85 |
| Butcher Steers | Cwt. | 10.50 | 11.00 | 10.75 | 95 | 98 |
| Prime Butcher Steers | Cwt. | 14.50 | 14.15 | 14.00 | 102 | 104 |
| Stocker and Feeder Steers | Cwt. | 8.50 | 8.75 | 9.00 | 97 | 95 |
| Veal Calves | Cwt. | 12.50 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 96 | 96 |
| Hogs | Cwt. | 8.90 | 9.40 | 8.65 | 95 | 103 |
| Heavy Hogs | Cwt. | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.25 | 100 | 97 |
| Lambs | Cwt. | 12.00 | 12.00 | 12.75 | 100 | 94 |
| Ewes | Cwt. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 6.00 | 100 | 67 |
| Flour— | | | | | | |
| Production—Twin Cities and Duluth— | | | | | | |
| Superior | Bbls. | 843,568 | 1,018,099 | 1,083,767 | 83 | 78 |
| Shipments from Minneapolis | Bbls. | 912,252 | 1,058,276 | 900,374 | 86 | 101 |
| Linseed Products Shipments from Minneapolis— | Lbs. | 25,909,117 | 44,173,701 | 45,090,101 | 59 | 57 |
| Retail Sales— | | | | | | |
| Department Stores | | \$2,608,740 | \$2,512,810 | \$2,524,440 | 104 | 103 |
| Furniture Stores | | 472,720 | 662,830 | 551,930 | 71 | 86 |
| Country Lumber Yards | Bd. Ft. | 11,913,000 | 18,211,000 | 14,918,000 | 65 | 80 |
| Retail Merchandise Stocks— | | | | | | |
| Department Stores | | \$6,255,080 | \$6,270,720 | \$6,952,170 | 100 | 90 |
| Furniture Stores | | 2,702,680 | 2,613,030 | 2,808,000 | 103 | 96 |
| Country Lumber Yards | Bd. Ft. | 73,334,000 | 77,919,000 | 75,810,000 | 94 | 97 |
| Life Insurance Sales—(4 States) | | \$25,531,000 | \$27,207,000 | \$22,924,000 | 94 | 111 |
| Wholesale Trade— | | | | | | |
| Farm Implements | | 156,790 | 184,840 | 120,440 | 85 | 130 |
| Hardware | | 2,376,630 | 3,005,810 | 2,321,000 | 79 | 102 |
| Shoes | | 441,290 | 649,160 | 528,100 | 68 | 84 |
| Groceries | | 5,152,620 | 5,690,700 | 5,068,470 | 91 | 102 |
| Business Failures— | | | | | | |
| Number | | 53 | 56 | 55 | 95 | 96 |
| Liabilities | | \$743,042 | \$666,709 | \$710,546 | 111 | 105 |
| Securities Sold— | | | | | | |
| To Banks | | 1,709,600 | 1,774,200 | 1,257,100 | 96 | 136 |
| To Insurance Companies | | 864,000 | 1,467,100 | 1,101,100 | 59 | 78 |
| To General Public | | 5,262,400 | 6,682,200 | 6,050,600 | 79 | 87 |
| Real Estate Activity in | | | | | | |
| Hennepin and Ramsey Counties— | | | | | | |
| Warranty Deeds Recorded | | 1795 | 1910 | 2005 | 94 | 90 |
| Mortgages Recorded | | 1435 | 1754 | 1552 | 82 | 94 |
| Member Bank Deposits— | | | | | | |
| In Cities under 15,000 Population | | \$450,533,000 | \$454,572,000 | \$478,867,000 | 99 | 94 |
| In Cities over 15,000 Population | | 464,055,000 | 462,144,000 | 494,704,000 | 100 | 94 |
| City Member Banks— | | | | | | |
| Loans Secured by Stocks and Bonds | | \$ 84,897,000 | \$ 90,331,000 | \$ 77,764,000 | 94 | 109 |
| All Other Loans | | 186,367,000 | 192,885,000 | 186,092,000 | 97 | 100 |
| Securities | | 121,349,000 | 120,928,000 | 133,210,000 | 100 | 91 |
| Net Demand Deposits Subject to Reserve | | 235,219,000 | 237,860,000 | 229,947,000 | 99 | 102 |
| Time Deposits | | 128,921,000 | 129,115,000 | 137,398,000 | 100 | 94 |
| Borrowings at Federal Reserve Bank | | 12,516,000 | 21,271,000 | 3,809,000 | 59 | 329 |
| Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank— | | | | | | |
| Bills Discounted | | 15,813,851 | 24,969,422 | 7,348,151 | 63 | 215 |
| Federal Reserve Notes in Circulation | | 65,869,090 | 66,913,955 | 65,093,830 | 98 | 101 |



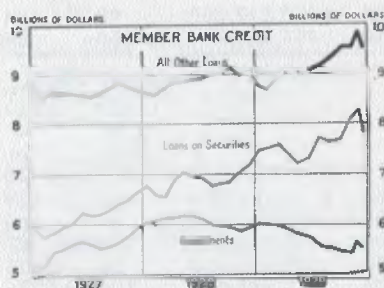
Index number of production of manufactures and minerals combined, adjusted for seasonal variations (1923-25 average = 100). Latest figure, November, 107.



Index numbers of factory employment and payrolls, without adjustment for seasonal variations (1923-25 average = 100). Latest figures, November, employment 98.2, payrolls 102.



Index of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (1926 = 100, base adopted by Bureau). Latest figure, November, 94.4.



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

Summary of National Business Conditions (Compiled December 20 by Federal Reserve Board)

Industrial production declined in November for the fifth consecutive month and was below the level of last year. Retail sales at department stores continued in larger volume than a year ago. Wholesale commodity prices moved downward in November and the first half of December.

PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT: Production in basic industries decreased by 9 per cent in November, according to the Board's index, and was 5 per cent lower than a year ago. The decline in production, which began in mid-summer, was restricted prior to November largely to industries in which the expansion during the earlier part of the year had been exceptionally rapid, particularly iron and steel, automobiles and related industries. The same industries showed the largest reductions in November, but there were declines also in the copper, cotton and wool textiles and shoe industries, and in a smaller degree in silk textiles and coal. Production of crude petroleum was also curtailed. The volume of building contracts awarded during the month continued to be considerably smaller than in the corresponding period of 1928.

Employment in factories was also reduced during November to a level slightly below a year ago, and there was a somewhat larger decrease in factory payrolls. The decline in employment since mid-summer, however, has been relatively smaller than that in the physical volume of production. Employment was in smaller volume than in November a year ago in the automobile, iron and steel, lumber and rubber products industries, and larger in the machinery, textiles, paper and printing, leather and chemical industries.

DISTRIBUTION: Distribution of commodities, as measured by freight carloadings, was in smaller volume in November than in October, reflecting larger than seasonal decreases in most classes of freight. Miscellaneous freight in less-than-carload lots, however, which includes chiefly commodities for retail trade, showed the usual seasonal change. Department store sales in leading cities during the month were about 1 per cent larger than last year according to preliminary reports. Increased sales were reported in four agricultural districts—Richmond, Kansas City, Dallas and San Francisco. In certain of the large industrial districts—Boston, New York and Cleveland—sales were approximately the same as in November 1928.

WHOLESALE PRICES: Wholesale prices were at a lower level in November than in October, and continued to decline during the first half of December. The downward movement, which had previously involved principally commodities with organized exchanges, became general during the latter part of the period.

BANK CREDIT: Liquidation of bank credit, which had begun early in November, continued throughout that month and the first two weeks of December, and on December 11 total loans and investments of reporting member banks were at about the same level as on October 23, prior to the increase caused by the withdrawal of funds by non-banking lenders. At member banks in New York City, loans were somewhat larger and investments were considerably larger on December 11 than on October 23, while at reporting banks outside New York, loans on securities, all other loans and investments were smaller than on that date. Reserve bank credit outstanding was also reduced during November and the first two weeks of December, largely in consequence of reduction in balances of member banks at the Reserve banks, which accompanied the liquidation of member bank credit. The decrease in reserve balances released reserve funds in more than sufficient volume to meet the export demand for gold amounting to \$65,000,000 during the period, as well as the seasonal currency requirements. Between November 6 and December 18, United States' security holdings of the Reserve banks increased considerably, while their holdings of acceptances declined somewhat, and there was a reduction of \$250,000,000 in the indebtedness of member banks. Money rates in the open market continued to decline and the discount rate, which had previously been reduced at five Reserve banks, was lowered at the Kansas City bank from 5 to 4½ per cent.