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SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS



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OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

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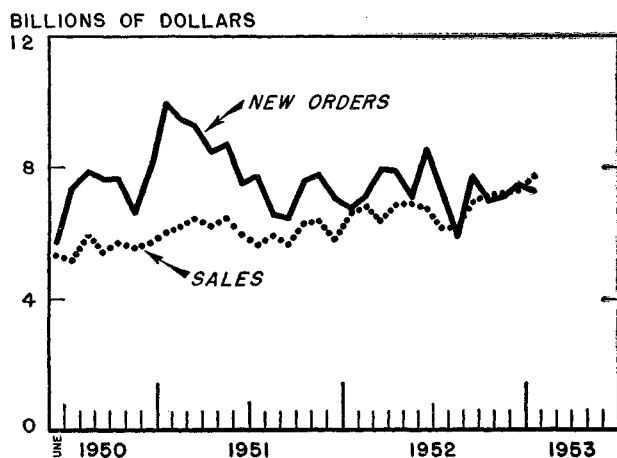
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The Business Situation

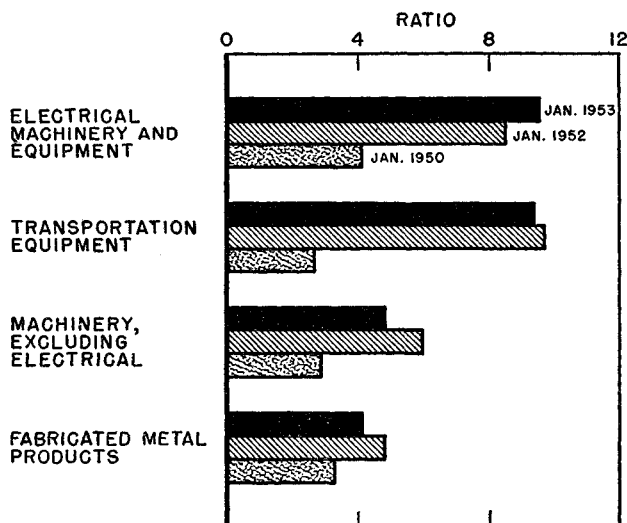
By the Office of Business Economics

Metal Consuming Industries

New orders have been about equal to sales in recent months



Ratio of unfilled orders to monthly sales still far above pre-Korean rate



NOTE: DATA ARE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

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HIGH level stability has characterized the national economy during the opening quarter of the year. The national income and product have remained steady at rates somewhat above the fourth quarter 1952 when much of the output lost during the steel shutdown was being made up.

Personal consumption, fixed business investment and Government purchases of goods and services appear currently to be absorbing a larger share of the national product with the result that the flow of additional goods into inventory has been greatly reduced. The rebuilding of metal products stocks was a major influence in the inventory increase of late 1952.

The progressive removal or relaxing of price and materials controls has been accompanied by few disturbances in commodity markets. This signifies that there are not many instances where supplies are substantially below demand. The most pronounced price movements have occurred in markets for farm products where surpluses, partly seasonal in character, caused price weakness and required supporting measures by the Government.

Material controls were relaxed in February when the National Production Authority authorized producers of controlled materials to accept "unrated" orders for any free capacity they might have. The effects of this "open-ending" of CMP will depend upon the available productive capacities relative to demand for the various types of steel, aluminum, copper, and brass products. In the months ahead there should be additional quantities of these materials available for distribution.

Civilian materials controls to lapse

The Controlled Materials Plan is to remain in effect until June 30. At that time all materials controls over civilian production and construction will be terminated. At the same time, CMP is scheduled to be replaced by a new system of controls known as the Defense Materials System whose regulations will assure producers allotments of materials required for defense production and construction.

Since the lifting of price controls on a broad assortment of producer and consumer goods, most market prices are now free. By mid-March only 5 percent, as measured by base period market value, of the 2,000 or so commodities included in the Bureau of Labor Statistics wholesale price index were still under control by the Office of Price Stabilization. Steel mill products, machine tools and certain other fabricated steel products, sulfur and sulfur chemicals are the most important of these. With regard to consumer goods, all price controls have been removed.

Prices of most commodities after being freed from control have shown little change up to mid-March. Some increased. Copper rose most as domestic quotations moved closer to

the world price. Other prices, such as lead and zinc, declined as decontrol occurred at a time when supplies were increasing.

Farm price adjustments

Prices received by farmers continued to decline during January and early February and also dropped further below parity, but firmed somewhat in late February and early March. As of mid-February, farm product prices were off 9 percent from February 1952 and stood 6 percent below parity. This price decline means lower raw materials costs for processors of farm products, especially food, and cotton textiles. In some cases—notably meats—lower consumer prices resulted. It can also mean, however, loss of income for farmers if the larger quantities marketed are more than offset by their lower prices and by relatively higher costs of farm production.

Weakness of farm product prices in late 1952 and the early weeks of this year is chiefly ascribable to the larger quantities marketed and in some cases also to the shrinkage of foreign demand. These price declines reflected the adjustment of the supplies resulting from the record-breaking large farm output of 1952 to current demands for farm materials.

During the course of the farm price decline, many major commodities fell to (or slightly below) support prices and this brought an increase in price support operations. Large quantities of basic commodities such as cotton, corn, and wheat have been placed under loan while others, such as butter and cheese, have been purchased outright. As support operations have continued and some easing has taken place in the movement to market, farm product prices firmed appreciably between mid-February and early March.

Personal income still rising

The flow of personal income in the first quarter is well above that of the fourth quarter of 1952. The January total, at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$280.5 billion, was only fractionally above December but was up \$3.5 billion or one percent from the fourth quarter average.

Major factors underlying the continuation of the income rise were moderately higher employment, on a seasonally adjusted basis, and the further rise of average hourly earnings of employees. In addition there were small increases in nonfarm proprietors' income, as well as in rents and in transfer payments.

The increase in employment was particularly marked from January to February when a half million more persons were engaged in nonagricultural pursuits. Total nonagricultural employment of 55.6 million exceeded February 1952 by 1.9 million, while unemployment was 0.3 million lower.

Retail distribution large

Sales of retail stores, on a seasonally adjusted basis, have continued high in the early months of the year. Although January sales were one percent below the December high, they were above any other preceding month, and preliminary data indicate the maintenance of the January sales rate during February.

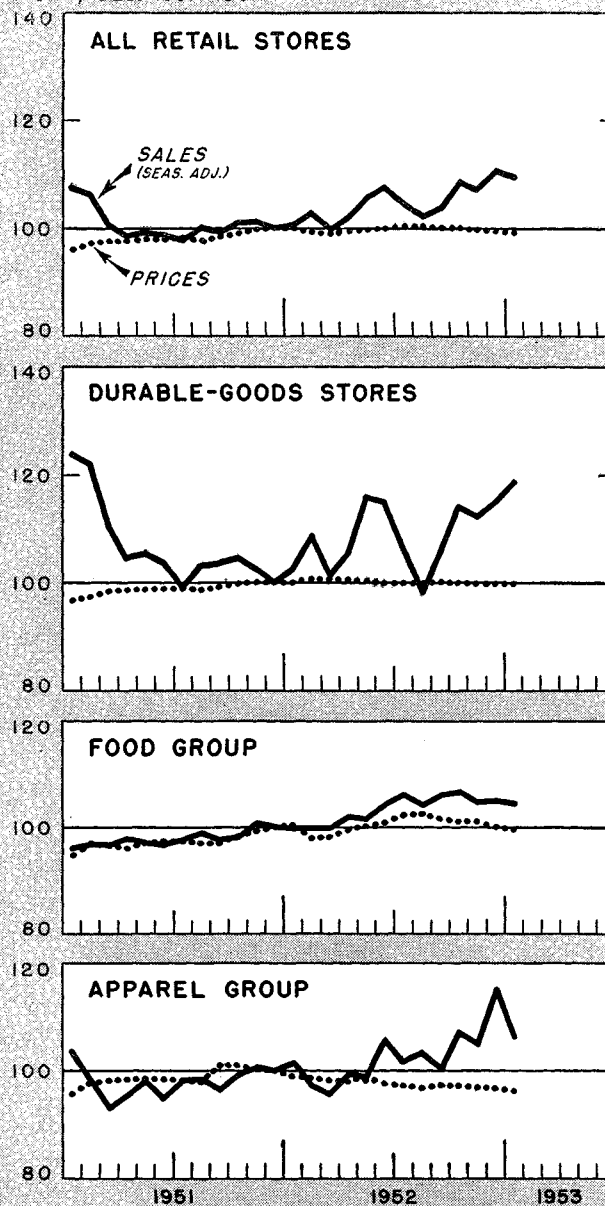
A part of the sales dip from December to January was due to lower prices, especially for food and apparel. Since sales in January 1953 were nearly 10 percent above those of January 1952 while retail prices averaged 1 percent lower, it is clear that retail distribution has commenced this year in substantially heavier volume than a year ago.

January sales of durable goods stores, seasonally adjusted were 3 percent above December and the highest since the advance buying wave which culminated at the beginning of 1951. All major groups participated and showed gains from December; hardware stores, motor vehicle dealers, and household appliances including radio stores registered the most decisive gains from the fourth quarter.

Retail Sales and Prices

Sales by most major store groups are well above a year ago — with prices generally steady or lower

INDEX, DEC. 1951 = 100



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January sales of nondurable goods stores, although down somewhat from December and fourth quarter figures, were large and well above any former periods. Drug and proprietary stores and gasoline service stations made the best

showing relative to December and general merchandise stores the poorest.

Durables aided by credit

Sales of durables were aided in January by the continued expansion of instalment credit above the year-end total. This expansion, although small, was unusual and contraseasonal. It was accounted for by a substantial rise in instalment credit extended by automotive dealers and a rise in cash instalment loans, chiefly by commercial banks. Retail purchasers have thus started the year by adding to their stocks of durable goods but have incurred larger instalment debt in so doing.

Production moves higher

Commodity production in the first three months of this year is continuing moderately upward, paced by the steel, construction, and automobile industries. The activity of these three basic industries is suggestive of the high rate at which the Nation's business economy has worked in this opening quarter of 1953. It is to be noted, however, that the nondurable goods industries have not thus far been so active as those making durable goods.

From the beginning of the year the steel industry has operated virtually at its January 1, 1953 capacity of 117.5 million tons under the pressure of requirements for defense, for construction and producers' durable equipment, and for consumer durable goods. Since a further addition to capacity of about 5 million tons is programed during 1953, the industry appears capable of supplying a very large tonnage of steel for civilian use after meeting in full all defense requirements. Even without the expected 1953 addition to capacity, continuation during the remainder of the year of the average operating rate that has prevailed from New Year's day through the second week of March would yield 116 million tons or 19 million more than in 1950.

The construction industry, a major consumer of steel, is also commencing the year at a high rate. Expenditures for new construction put in place during January and February totaled \$4.5 billion or 6 percent above the same 1952 period. The decline from last year's fourth quarter rate was considerably less than is usual for the winter season and indicates that the industry is getting an unusually good start to what promises to be a year of exceptional if not record-breaking achievement.

Auto production highest in two years

Motor vehicle production has moved with great irregularity since the invasion of South Korea. For the most part the availability of steel has controlled production movements in this period, although at its start production was greatly stimulated by the abnormal demand arising from buyer fear of future shortages.

The expansion in motor vehicle production which began following settlement of the work stoppage in the steel mills last summer has continued into the current quarter. Completions had exceeded the prestrike rate as early as September and in the fourth quarter hit close to 1.7 million cars and trucks (see chart).

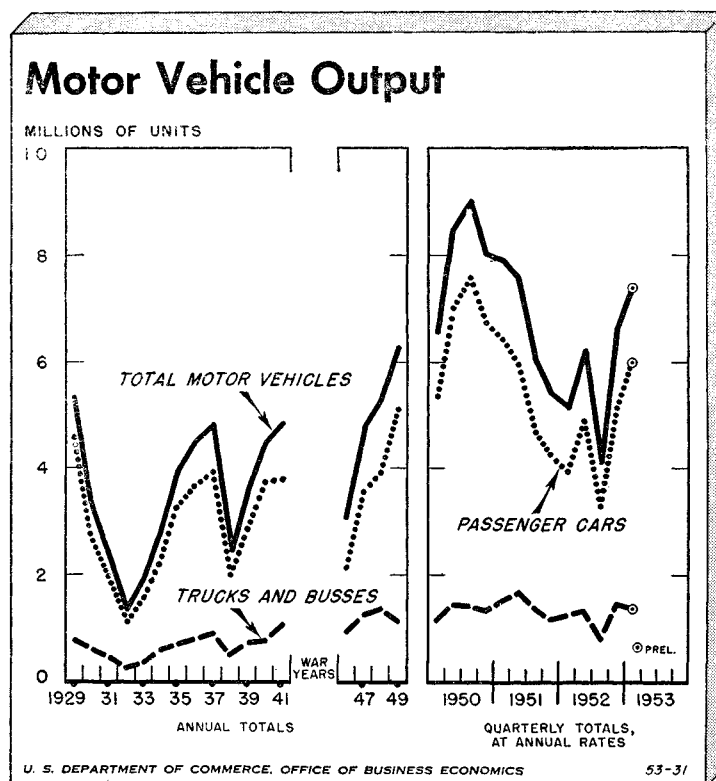
On the basis of production for January and February and projected schedules for March the industry in the current quarter is expected to turn out 1.5 million passenger cars and 350,000 trucks for a total of 1,850,000 units, up nearly 200,000 from the fourth quarter of 1952 and 560 thousand above the year-ago volume. This production performance would represent the best quarter since the April-June 1951

period. It would virtually equal the quarterly average rate of the first half of 1950, but still less than the peak rate reached in the third quarter of 1950.

All of the increase in production in the current quarter as compared with the October-December 1952 period will be in passenger cars as assemblies of trucks are expected to show a small decline. Truck production has been generally more stable throughout most of the postwar period than was the case for passenger cars.

To achieve the high volume indicated for the January-March period, the industry supplemented its allotments of steel by the continued use of conversion and foreign steel and by borrowing on the second quarter's allotment.

In addition to the continued strong domestic demand for motor vehicles and parts, foreign demand for these products have accounted for a significant proportion of the total sales. About 7 percent of the total value of United States exports



consists of motor vehicles and related products. Factory sales of motor vehicles to foreign markets in the past two years averaged close to 7 percent of total production, with exports accounting for 4 percent of passenger cars and 14 percent of trucks and busses.

The pickup in production in the most recent months has been accompanied by a considerable increase in the number of new cars in the hands of retail dealers. However, some accumulation usually occurs in the early months of the year, in anticipation of the normally high spring selling season, and the current buildup is from an exceptionally low level last summer. In February of this year stocks, while up substantially from the low point of midsummer of 1952 and moderately higher than year-ago levels, were still low relative to sales on the basis of prewar standards.

On February 1 dealers stocks of passenger cars and trucks were each considerably less than one month's production. The number of passenger cars held by dealers and in transit averaged a little more than 8 cars per dealer. This compares with an average of nearly 10 cars in May 1951, the high for that year, and around 11 in June 1950. Thus, it appears

that dealers are in a position to add to existing stocks so as to offer car buyers a wider selection of models and colors during the current selling season. The recent increases in new car sales have also been accompanied by higher dealer inventories of used cars.

Large producer of nonautomotive lines

Besides producing motor vehicles and related products, the automobile industry is also engaged in the production of such nonautomotive lines as refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, diesel-electric locomotives, and other products. In addition, since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea in June 1950 the industry has been producing for defense economy.

Hence, total production and employment in the industry have been less closely tied to motor vehicle production than is normally the case.

On the basis of shipments data submitted to National Production Authority by the metal fabricating industries, it is estimated that shipments against military and other related orders in 1952 accounted for approximately one-fifth of total shipments of the automobile industry. In a recent labor market study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics it was estimated that roughly 22 percent of employees in the automobile industry in November of 1952 were engaged in the production of defense and related lines. Despite the rise of defense production, sales to the civilian market still constitute by far the greater proportion of the total.

Recent Trends in Manufacturers' Orders

THE high rate of manufacturing output in recent months has generally been matched by the rate of incoming orders. Backlogs, as a consequence, have held at about \$73 billion since last November—as compared to an average of \$75 billion in the third quarter of 1952. The volume of orders to be filled is now three times as large as in the early part of 1950.

The moderate decline in unfilled orders from last September was in part due to seasonal influences and to cancellations of some orders as a result of rescheduling of several armament programs. Movements in recent months, however, point to a flattening out in the trend of manufacturers' backlogs, after an almost uninterrupted expansion in the 27 months following the Korean outbreak.

Defense and civilian backlogs about equal

The shift from continuous growth of unfilled orders to relative balance between now orders and deliveries is primarily an indicator of the progress of the defense mobilization program.

Although it is difficult to ascertain how much of the current backlogs on books of manufacturers represented defense contracts, available information indicates that the latter accounted for roughly half the total. Defense contracts outstanding have been on a plateau in recent months as have total unfilled orders.

Unfilled orders steady

The recent cessation of advances in unfilled orders has not resulted from any shrinkage in new orders for producers of either durables or nondurables. New business expanded in early fall and has since held relatively firm.

Total outstanding commitments for durable goods in January were \$7.5 billion more than in the corresponding month a year ago. Transportation equipment and electrical machinery producers accounted for all of this rise in backlogs. Relative to sales in the respective periods, however, backlogs are now equivalent to 6 months of shipments, or just under the year-ago rates. The backlog-sales ratio for the electrical

machinery industry is currently higher than a year ago while for other major durable-goods industries it was slightly below January 1952 rates.

Variations in backlogs

As noted earlier, the rise in shipments over the past year has tended to lower slightly the average number of months of sales represented by the volume of unfilled orders on hand. In order to derive some insight into the varying experience within this average, a special tabulation was made covering the transportation equipment, electrical machinery, and nonelectrical machinery fields. These industry groups held more than two-thirds of all manufacturers' unfilled orders at the beginning of 1953.

Table 1.—Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Unfilled Order-Sales Ratios, by Major Durable-Goods Industries

Industry	Unfilled orders (billions of dollars)			Ratio of unfilled orders to seasonally adjusted sales (number of months)		
	Jan. 1950	Jan. 1952	Jan. 1953	Jan. 1950	Jan. 1952	Jan. 1953
All durable goods	19.2	63.5	70.0	2.7	5.8	5.7
Primary metals.....	3.8	8.1	8.0	2.9	4.1	3.8
Fabricated metals.....	2.5	5.9	5.8	3.3	4.8	4.1
Electrical machinery.....	2.8	9.0	11.5	4.1	8.5	9.6
Other machinery.....	3.1	12.2	10.1	2.8	5.9	4.8
Transportation equipment.....	4.1	22.2	28.5	2.6	9.7	9.4
Other durable goods.....	2.8	6.0	6.1	1.7	2.7	2.4

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

At the start of this year unfilled orders held by almost one-half of these companies were about the same or higher than a year earlier. Sales of most concerns, however, rose during 1952 and as a result backlog-sales ratios for the majority were lowered. As can be seen in table 2, the ratios of 65 percent of the companies were reduced by more than 10 percent during 1952, while only slightly more than one-fifth of the firms reported increases of over 10 percent. It may be noted however, that current backlog-sales ratios

for the bulk of these companies are far in excess of their early 1950 rates.

There were divergent industry trends within the group of machinery and transportation equipment companies. The relative dispersion of companies according to changes in their backlog-sales ratio between the beginning and end of 1952 was more favorable for electrical machinery producers than for nonelectrical machinery and transportation equipment companies.

Transportation equipment new orders rising

At the end of January, backlogs of the transportation equipment group aggregated \$27 billion—almost entirely defense contracts. The January total was \$1.5 billion below last September, but some \$5 billion above January 1952.

The ratio of unfilled contracts on hand to sales in the transportation equipment industry at the end of January was 10 months, or about the same as last January. Since many of the contracts placed with this industry involved long blueprint, tooling-up and production periods, it was not until September 1952 that deliveries were made in quantities even approaching the volume of new orders. During the fall the expansion in shipments was a little larger than the rise in new orders, but by late winter the two were in balance.

The aircraft sector shows the highest average ratio of unfilled orders to sales—about 30 months. However, this industry has begun to cut into its high backlog. For more than one-half of the reporting firms, the volume of business on hand was lower relative to sales at the end of 1952 than a year earlier, while only a fourth had increases of more than 10 percent in unfilled orders-sales ratios.

For other transportation equipment producers except motor vehicles current backlogs equal 8 months of sales—a decline of 4 months from early 1952. Few companies have increased their ratios of backlogs to sales over the past year.

Machinery backlogs still high

Unfilled orders of machinery producers aggregated more than \$21 billion at the end of January, about the same as in January 1952, and \$15 billion higher than in the immediate pre-Korean period. A large portion of this total is currently in defense contracts, but civilian goods—both producers' and consumers'—constitute an important part of the business in this area. Since the production periods for these companies are generally shorter than those in the transportation equipment group, machinery deliveries began to match the inflow of new orders early last spring.

New orders for machinery have shown considerable strengthening in the late fall and winter. The firmness stemmed primarily from the electrical machinery sector where new orders have moved up relatively more in recent months than any other major industry. Late winter backlogs of outstanding contracts held by electrical machinery producers are now back to the October high of \$11.5 billion. This total represented nearly 10 months of sales at current rates, as compared with 8.5 months a year ago.

In addition to sizable defense business, orders of electrical equipment producers have benefited from the rapidly expanding electronics field, the opening of new television stations, as well as from the autumn upturn in consumer demand for television receivers and electrical appliances. Producers in the radio, radar, television, and other communications equipment group received new orders totaling about 4 percent more in 1952 than a year earlier. In spite of in-

creasing deliveries, backlogs rose by a third from the beginning of 1952 to early this year. The rise brought the January ratio of backlogs to sales to 13 months.

Manufacturers of electrical generating and transmission equipment have shown about the same orders and sales pattern as the communications group. The January average backlog ratio was nearly 12 months as compared with a little less than 8 months a year ago.

For other electrical machinery producers, orders on hand represented about 6 months of sales. About a third of the reporting companies improved their order-sales position at the beginning of 1953 over early 1952, while about half showed some deterioration in this ratio.

Industrial machinery backlogs reduced

A somewhat different pattern of orders trends is found among manufacturers of metalworking, special, and general industrial machinery. New orders in this industry reached a high in late 1951. Since then, the value of new business received has moved down moderately, while deliveries have been sharply expanded.

As a result, industrial machinery backlogs which reached a peak of 9 months of sales in February of last year now rep-

Table 2.—Unfilled Orders Position of Machinery and Transportation Equipment Companies

	[Percentage of companies]			
	All companies	Electrical machinery	Other machinery	Transportation equipment
Changes in unfilled orders Jan. 1, 1952, to Jan. 1, 1953:				
Increases of more than 10 percent.....	29.7	45.8	17.8	50.7
(+) 10 percent to (−) 10 percent.....	17.1	11.9	19.4	14.9
Decreases of more than 10 percent.....	53.2	42.4	62.8	34.4
Changes in ratios of unfilled orders to sales, Jan. 1, 1952, to January 1, 1953:				
Increases of more than 10 percent.....	20.5	26.3	17.8	19.8
(+) 10 percent to (−) 10 percent.....	14.4	26.3	11.5	9.8
Decreases of more than 10 percent.....	65.1	47.4	70.7	70.4

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

resent 7 months of current sales. The pre-Korean ratio of unfilled orders to sales, it may be noted, was only 3 months. Only one-sixth of the companies have maintained or increased their unfilled orders-sales position. These firms were more usually manufacturers of special industry machinery.

While declining backlog ratios were characteristic of all segments of the industrial machinery industry, machine-tools producers reported the largest decreases. Unfilled-order ratios of machine-tool companies have been about halved from the beginning of 1952, although they are still close to 10 months of shipments. Deliveries, it may be noted, are now double their year-ago rates.

Commercial machinery orders rising

In the nonindustrial machinery field—equipment and appliances for agriculture, construction, offices, stores, services, and homes—overall orders trends have been similar to those in industrial machinery. Exceptions are office and store machinery and household and service equipment where the growing availability of all types of metals for civilian use and the lifting of commercial construction controls have resulted in recent expansion of both orders and deliveries in these fields. Unfilled orders for household and service machinery have reached new highs.

1953 Investment Programs Increased

BUSINESS has scheduled expenditures for new plant and equipment during 1953 at a continued high rate, according to reports submitted between mid-February and mid-March to the Office of Business Economics and the Securities and Exchange Commission.¹ Nonfarm producers have programed capital spending this year at \$27.0 billion, as compared to \$26.5 billion last year, and \$25.6 billion in 1951.

Capital goods prices are currently only slightly above their average for the full year 1952 and have shown little change in recent quarters. It thus appears that the 1953 programs now contemplated represent a high year not only in dollar terms but also in physical volume of additions to productive facilities.

Public utilities have scheduled 1953 expenditures at \$4.4 billion, or 14 percent higher than in 1952. Mining companies and nonrail transport companies expect more moderate increases. Manufacturing companies are planning 1953 outlays of \$12 billion, about equal to expenditures made last year. Anticipated additions of \$1.3 billion by the railroads, on the other hand, are down 7 percent from last year.

Investment programs now higher

Programs reported for 1953 in the current survey corroborate and reinforce the finding in a similar survey con-

ducted last October that business was planning another high year of new plant and equipment expenditures. Present programs are 5 percent higher than those reported earlier—with almost every major industry contributing to the increase.

While it is not possible to determine precisely the factors which raised the 1953 expenditure projections between the two survey periods, the higher current programs may reflect the sizable expansion in business activity in the interim period and the greater completeness of 1953 programs now as compared to those available last October.

Investment during 1953

The quarterly survey indicates that new plant and equipment expenditures are scheduled at seasonally adjusted annual rates of \$27.5 billion and \$28.1 billion, respectively, in the first two quarters of this year. Additions to productive facilities in this period, if realized, would be 4 percent higher than the rate in the first half of 1952, and 6 percent higher than in the strike-affected second half of last year.

The scheduled capital spending of \$27.8 billion (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) in the first half of this year implies an annual rate of fixed investment of some \$26.2 billion in the last half of 1953. However, past experience with

Table 3.—Expenditures for New Plant and Equipment by United States Business, 1951-53¹

[Millions of dollars]

	1951	1952	1953 ²	1951				1952				1953	
				I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I ²	II ²
All industries.....	25,644	26,455	26,991	5,465	6,502	6,505	7,173	6,141	6,808	6,244	7,265	6,541	6,968
Manufacturing.....	10,852	11,994	12,039	2,157	2,743	2,738	3,214	2,650	3,156	2,820	3,367	3,028	3,163
Mining.....	929	880	910	194	242	241	252	217	228	206	229	208	213
Railroads.....	1,474	1,391	1,294	294	394	354	432	360	386	289	357	335	396
Transportation, other than rail.....	1,490	1,363	1,380	354	415	375	346	356	372	302	335	304	315
Public utilities.....	3,664	3,838	4,338	729	897	983	1,055	821	928	947	1,142	1,030	1,199
Commercial and other ³	7,235	6,989	7,000	1,737	1,811	1,814	1,874	1,737	1,738	1,680	1,835	1,636	1,682
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates													
[Billions of dollars]													
All industries.....				23.74	25.47	26.49	26.56	26.72	26.58	25.49	26.96	27.54	28.07
Manufacturing.....				9.59	10.63	11.30	11.69	11.78	12.24	11.64	12.23	12.78	12.99
Mining.....				.82	.96	.96	.96	.93	.90	.83	.87	.84	.84
Railroads.....				1.28	1.47	1.52	1.60	1.56	1.44	1.24	1.32	1.31	1.48
Transportation, other than rail.....				1.43	1.52	1.58	1.43	1.44	1.36	1.27	1.38	1.23	1.16
Public utilities.....				3.39	3.62	3.85	3.73	3.82	3.75	3.71	4.04	4.55	4.84
Commercial and other ³				7.23	7.27	7.28	7.15	7.19	6.89	6.80	7.12	6.83	6.76

1. Data exclude expenditures of agricultural business and outlays charged to current account.

2. Data for the first and second quarters of 1953 and for year 1953 are based on anticipated expenditures reported by business between mid-February and mid-March. In addition to seasonal adjustment, the quarterly data are adjusted when necessary for systematic tendencies in anticipatory data.

3. Data include trade, service, finance, communication and construction.

Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics, and Securities and Exchange Commission.

these anticipatory surveys have indicated a tendency for the latter part of the year (as well as the year as a whole) to be understated relative to the earlier months of the year due to the lesser completeness of future plans as compared to near-term programs.

Considering for this factor, it would appear that the anticipated rates of fixed investment in the halves of 1953 are not significantly different.

Manufacturers' 1953 programs

The maintenance of 1952 rates of fixed investment expected by manufacturers in 1953 reflects the offsetting effects of

(Continued on page 19)

1. In order to provide SURVEY readers with new information as quickly as it becomes available, this analysis presents only the highlights of the current survey of business capital budgets. A more detailed analysis of 1953 investment programs, as well as the results of the associated survey of businessmen's 1953 sales expectations, will be presented in the April SURVEY. It may be noted that the estimates presented here are based on more complete data for 1951. Earlier estimates are not affected by this revision.

The Balance of Payments in 1952

THE improvement in the financial position of foreign countries, which was indicated by the international transactions of the United States during the second and third quarters of 1952, continued in the last quarter of the year. During these nine months foreign countries were able, through their transactions with the United States, to raise their holdings of gold and dollar assets by nearly \$1.6 billion. These gains helped to bring total foreign gold and liquid dollar resources (excluding those of the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund) to over \$20 billion by the end of 1952, almost the same amount as at the end of 1945, the previous peak.

Foreign reserves continue to increase

Although foreign countries continued to add to their gold and dollar holdings in the fourth quarter, a rise in the United States export balance on goods and services from the third to the fourth quarter was largely responsible for a decline in gold and dollar transfers from \$765 million to \$395 million. The export rise must be attributed, however, mainly to seasonal and temporary factors, such as the upswing in agricultural exports and, to a lesser extent, the rise in shipments of steel and steel products—the latter having been curtailed during the previous quarter because of the steel strike. In addition, income on investments advanced to the usual seasonal peak in the last quarter of the year.

Table 1 indicates in simplified form the basic features and trends of the balance of payments since the middle of 1950.

Although substantial progress toward a better balance in international transactions has been achieved since the first quarter of 1952, net foreign purchases of goods and services here in the fourth quarter of 1952 were still larger—by an annual rate of \$500 million—than the amount of funds currently earned by foreign countries from United States imports or supplied by private United States investments and remittances.

United States exports decline

Several factors contributed to a decline in United States exports, which was the major reason that foreign countries were able to reduce the imbalance in their transactions with the United States during 1952.

First, business activity in the United States expanded faster than in Western Europe in contrast to all other postwar years, when the rise from each year to the next was greater abroad than in the United States. Europe's faster advances in the earlier years represented, of course, recovery from the unduly low levels of production which prevailed immediately after the war.

The index of industrial production in the United States during the last quarter of the year averaged about 5 percent higher than during the first quarter. The rise in industrial production in Western Europe was only approximately half as much. This relative difference in expansion of industrial

activity between this country and Western Europe could ordinarily be expected to raise the demand for imports here—and at the same time increase European incentives to export to this country. Several factors, however, accentuated the normally to be expected effects on international transactions of these differences in the movement of production.

Table 1.—Summary of the United States Balance of Payments, July 1950–December 1952

[Millions of dollars, quarterly totals or rates]

	Line in table 2	July 1950–June 1951	July–December 1951	1952			
				I	II	III	IV
Foreign countries earned from the sale of goods and services to the United States	16	3,685	3,603	3,867	3,867	3,911	4,083
Foreign countries obtained total goods and services from the United States valued at	8	4,324	5,284	5,347	5,322	4,604	5,428
Less those furnished under military aid	20	294	374	440	589	616	949
Other goods and services purchased in the United States		4,030	4,910	4,907	4,733	3,988	4,479
Thus, foreign net expenditures on goods and services (excluding those furnished under military aid) were		345	1,307	1,040	866	77	396
To finance these net purchases, foreign countries had at their disposal the following amounts of dollars received from United States sources:							
Investments in United States controlled enterprises abroad	24	173	134	180	372	75	84
Other private loans and remittances	18, 25, 26	348	227	151	241	21	187
Government economic grants, other transfers, and loans (net)	19, 21, 27, 28	816	746	557	860	768	303
Total foreign dollar receipts from investments, gifts, and loans		1,337	1,107	888	1,473	864	574
Thus, known foreign dollar receipts exceeded (+) or fell short (–) of known foreign dollar expenditures by		+992	–200	–152	+607	+787	+178
However, unaccounted-for transactions required (–) or supplied (+) additional dollar exchange of	35	–105	–100	–230	–203	–22	+217
So that foreign gold and dollar assets increased (+) or declined (–) by these amounts	34	+887	–300	–382	+404	+765	+395

The textile industry, which underwent the relatively greatest decline in output abroad, depends to a large extent upon raw materials from the United States, so that the impact from the change in its activity was directly transferred to United States exports.

Also, the decline in demand for coal from the United States may in part be ascribed to the failure of industrial production in Western Europe to maintain the previous rate of expansion while coal production there continued to

Table 2.—Balance of Payments of the United

[Millions of dollars]

Line No.	Item	All areas						Western Europe ¹						Dependencies ¹						
		1951	1952					1951	1952					1951	1952					
			I ^r	II	III ^r	IV ^p	Year		I ^r	II	III ^r	IV ^p	Year		I	II	III ^r	IV ^p	Year	
1	Exports of goods and services:																			
2	Merchandise, adjusted.....	15,485	4,177	4,088	3,436	4,158	15,859	5,327	1,439	1,383	1,083	1,669	5,574	504	150	149	119	131	549	
3	Transportation.....	1,487	392	375	289	317	1,373	756	204	172	131	142	649	61	14	13	11	12	50	
4	Travel.....	420	102	141	160	109	512	37	8	13	13	9	43	7	2	3	3	2	10	
5	Miscellaneous services:																			
6	Private.....	623	160	155	154	154	623	273	69	68	66	66	269	(*)	8	(*)	2	(*)	3	10
7	Government.....	211	94	109	104	116	423	133	72	46	35	53	206	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
8	Income on investments:																			
9	Private.....	1,800	393	440	420	458	1,711	150	36	38	39	36	149	102	23	30	22	28	103	
10	Government.....	192	29	14	41	116	200	163	23	5	29	106	163	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
11	Total.....	20,218	5,347	5,322	4,604	5,428	20,701	6,839	1,851	1,725	1,396	2,081	7,053	682	191	197	158	176	722	
12	Imports of goods and services:																			
13	Merchandise, adjusted.....	11,668	2,962	2,844	2,689	3,024	11,519	2,175	552	546	522	641	2,261	1,056	303	293	192	254	1,042	
14	Transportation.....	933	245	276	276	254	1,051	463	120	157	150	126	553	19	6	7	7	7	27	
15	Travel.....	722	132	203	343	145	823	188	22	75	103	42	242	45	16	12	13	10	51	
16	Miscellaneous services:																			
17	Private.....	249	62	62	65	64	253	206	50	51	54	53	208	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
18	Government.....	1,084	377	373	439	472	1,661	362	137	135	157	171	600	35	29	20	18	17	84	
19	Income on investments:																			
20	Private.....	351	77	97	79	104	357	263	59	60	58	69	246	2	1	1	1	1	4	
21	Government.....	47	12	12	20	20	64	14	4	4	8	8	24	(*)	1	(*)	1	1	3	
22	Total.....	15,054	3,867	3,867	3,911	4,083	15,728	3,671	944	1,028	1,052	1,110	4,134	1,157	356	333	232	290	1,211	
23	Balance on goods and services.....	5,164	1,480	1,455	693	1,345	4,973	3,168	907	697	344	971	2,919	-475	-165	-136	-74	-114	-489	
24	Unilateral transfers (net, to foreign countries (-)):																			
25	Private.....	-412	-96	-94	-103	-122	-415	-192	-44	-43	-47	-62	-196	-15	-3	-4	-4	-4	-15	
26	Government:																			
27	Economic aid.....	-2,969	-387	-615	-538	-361	-1,904	-2,192	-286	-461	-422	-272	-1,441	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
28	Military aid.....	-1,462	-440	-589	-616	-949	-2,594	-1,111	-358	-498	-475	-815	-2,146	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
29	Other.....	-70	-20	-35	-31	-34	-130	11	-7	-7	-5	-6	-25	-1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
30	Total.....	-4,913	-953	-1,333	-1,288	-1,469	-5,043	-3,484	-695	-1,009	-949	-1,155	-3,808	-16	-3	-4	-4	-4	-15	
31	Balance on goods and services and unilateral transfers (balance for "all areas" equals net foreign investment).	251	527	122	-595	-124	-70	-316	212	-312	-605	-184	-889	-491	-168	-140	-78	-118	-504	
32	United States capital (net, outflow (-)):																			
33	Private:																			
34	Direct investments.....	-604	-180	-372	-75	-84	-711	-78	12	-18	16	5	15	-5	7	12	13	7	39	
35	Other long-term.....	-359	-59	-88	50	-23	-120	31	2	-39	-5	20	-22	9	1	1	(*)	(*)	2	
36	Short-term.....	-103	4	-59	32	-42	-65	44	23	12	-21	-32	-18	-4	-1	-1	4	1	3	
37	Government:																			
38	Long-term.....	-140	-141	-187	-187	106	-409	117	-64	-100	-81	132	-113	-18	-3	-2	-24	-1	-30	
39	Short-term.....	-23	1	-23	-12	-11	-45	-7	-3	15	12	-4	20	-2	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
40	Total.....	-1,229	-375	-729	-192	-54	-1,350	107	-30	-130	-79	121	-118	-20	4	10	-7	7	14	
41	Foreign capital (net, outflow (-)):																			
42	Long-term:																			
43	Transactions in United States Government bonds.....	-688	8	14	54	228	304	-109	10	7	34	39	90							
44	Other investments.....	145	-7	-4	35	91	115	127	0	-30	31	56	57	9	-1	1	1	1	2	
45	Short-term.....	1,038	172	498	669	-198	1,141	178	58	220	453	-92	639	-5	1	15	28	34	78	
46	Gold sales (purchases (-)).....	-53	-555	-104	7	274	-378	-295	-549	2	1	225	-321	12	2	1	1	3	7	
47	Balance on foreign capital and gold.....	442	-382	404	765	395	1,182	-99	-481	199	519	228	465	16	2	17	30	38	87	
48	Transfers of funds between foreign areas (receipts from other areas (-)) and errors and omissions.....	536	230	203	22	-217	238	308	299	243	165	-165	542	495	162	113	55	73	403	

* Less than \$500,000.

* Revised.

* Preliminary.

1. Western Europe includes the OEEC countries, Finland, Spain, and Yugoslavia.

increase. Favorable weather conditions and the increasing use of other sources of energy were additional factors reducing the consumption of coal. The decline in coal exports to Western Europe from 3 million tons per month during the last half of 1951, to a 1-million ton rate during the last 6 months of 1952 cannot be solely ascribed, therefore, to higher coal production abroad, which accounted for only 1 million tons of the difference. Reduced coal shipments from the United States over that period resulted in a decline in foreign dollar expenditures, including those for shipping, by about \$200 million. This was approximately 15 percent of the decline in the export surplus on goods and services with Western Europe exclusive of exports under the military aid program.

In contrast to the reduced rate of expansion in industrial production abroad, the accelerated rise in production and

incomes here had stimulated imports by the end of 1952 to the highest volume since the previous postwar peak following the invasion of South Korea. The limited demand from other countries not only facilitated a rise in imports from Europe by 20 percent from the last quarter of 1951 to the same period of 1952, but also permitted increased purchases of raw materials without price rises. The stability of prices in the face of rising demands by the United States was in sharp contrast to the period immediately after the invasion of South Korea.

Second, production of wheat in Canada and Western Europe during the summer months was about 7.4 million tons higher than during the previous season, and the grain crops in the southern hemisphere and in East Asia were also substantially improved. Foreign purchases of American wheat during the second half of the calendar year in terms

Table 3.—Balance of Payments of the United States

[Millions of dollars]

Item	Total						United Kingdom					
	1951	1952					1951	1952				
		Year	I	II	III ¹	IV ²		Year	I	II	III ¹	IV ²
Exports of goods and services:¹												
Merchandise, adjusted.....	2,331	2,069	738	488	384	459	911	682	243	156	119	164
Transportation.....	2,6	235	80	60	45	50	143	138	39	37	30	32
Travel.....	27	30	5	11	8	6	11	13	2	4	4	3
Miscellaneous services:												
Private.....	193	203	51	48	52	52	160	168	41	40	44	43
Government.....	17	29	5	5	13	6	15	13	4	3	3	3
Income on investments:												
Private.....	225	239	59	57	63	60	89	81	24	17	21	19
Government.....	88	94		(*)	(*)	94	88	90				90
Total.....	3,167	2,899	938	669	565	727	1,417	1,185	353	257	221	354
Imports of goods and services:												
Merchandise, adjusted.....	2,226	1,942	537	532	425	448	483	575	157	147	131	140
Transportation.....	184	232	51	67	64	50	148	194	42	58	54	40
Travel.....	90	94	19	26	32	17	37	41	3	12	19	7
Miscellaneous services:												
Private.....	180	173	43	43	44	43	178	172	42	43	44	43
Government.....	92	156	36	39	39	42	62	106	24	27	26	29
Income on investments:												
Private.....	137	132	32	32	32	36	134	128	31	31	31	35
Government.....	2	6	1	1	2	2	2	6	1	1	2	2
Total.....	2,911	2,735	719	740	638	638	1,044	1,222	300	319	307	296
Balance on goods and services.....	256	164	219	-71	-73	89	373	-37	53	-62	-86	58
Unilateral transfers (net):												
Private.....	-67	-73	-16	-16	-16	-25	-32	-35	-8	-7	-7	-13
Government:												
Economic aid.....	-253	-431	-20	-162	-144	-105	-218	-404	-17	-155	-134	-98
Military aid.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Other.....	-6	-7	-2	-2	-2	-1	-4	-4	-1	-1	-1	-1
Total.....	-326	-511	-38	-180	-162	-131	-254	-443	-26	-163	-142	-112
Balance on goods and services and unilateral transfers.....	-70	-347	181	-251	-235	-42	119	-480	27	-225	-228	-54
United States capital (net):												
Private:												
Direct investments.....	-63	-2	-24	-6	19	9	-26	21	13	-4	9	3
Other long-term.....	-14	-22	-7	-2	-1	-12	-6	-5	-3	-3	-2	3
Short-term.....	87	58	14	19	27	-2	80	24	14	-6	16	(*)
Government:												
Long-term.....	-36	-130	-52	-78	-37	37	89	5	-2	-45	(*)	52
Short-term.....	8	12	-1	15	-2	(*)	0	6	(*)	13	-7	(*)
Total.....	-18	-84	-70	-52	6	32	137	51	22	-45	16	58
Foreign capital (net):												
Long-term:												
Transactions in United States Government bonds.....	-32	87	9	12	31	35	-33	86	8	12	31	35
Other.....	89	3	-3	-30	9	27	83	0	-2	-31	7	26
Short-term.....	68	169	117	22	65	-35	-5	165	139	10	69	-53
Gold sales (purchases (-)).....	-514	-448	-521	-11	3	81	-464	-440	-520		(*)	89
Balance on foreign capital and gold.....	-389	-189	-398	-7	108	108	-419	-189	-375	-9	107	88
Transfers of funds between foreign areas (receipts from other areas (-)) and errors and omissions.....	477	620	287	310	121	-98	163	618	326	279	105	-92

* Less than 500,000. * Revised. * Preliminary.

¹ Exports of goods and services have been adjusted to exclude exports of military end-use items financed through grants under the military aid programs and to include in merchandisefor the total sterling area—but not for the United Kingdom and other component areas—"Special category" exports sold for cash. For the definition of "Special category" goods, see *Foreign Trade Statistics Notes* for September 1950, published by the Bureau of the Census.

export prices reduced domestic demand and consequently also the need for direct import restrictions.

Military expenditures rising

Foreign dollar receipts were also increased by Government expenditures abroad for goods and services, including "off-shore purchases," troop expenditures, and our contributions to "infrastructure" facilities for interallied use. The rise in such expenditures started in Japan shortly after the invasion of South Korea. Expenditures in Japan declined, however, from the first to the second half of 1952 while those in Western Europe increased.

Transactions in civilian services also increased foreign dollar receipts or reduced foreign dollar outlays. Foreign net expenditures on transportation declined because of reduced tonnage of exports from the United States, greater participation of foreign vessels in the trade, lower freight rates and increased tourist travel on foreign carriers.

Although tourist expenditures abroad were rising over the year, foreign tourist expenditures in the United States rose nearly as much, leaving the balance virtually unchanged.

Income on investments, however, appears to have declined as compared with the previous year. Rising costs abroad including taxes, and either stable or in some cases declining prices of the goods produced seem to have reduced the return on our foreign investments.

Marked change in unrecorded transactions

The last major item which improved the financial position of foreign countries includes all those transactions which can only be inferred from the difference between the known dollar receipts and payments. These missing transactions ("Errors and omissions") declined from net receipts of \$433 million during the first half of 1952 to net payments of \$195 million in the second half. Although in several other postwar years this item declined from the first to the second half, the change by over \$600 million was far more than had previously been experienced and may be assumed to reflect more than random errors and the lack of data for certain recurrent transactions.

There have been three major shifts in this item since the war, all of which seem to have been closely related to the changing strength of the pound sterling. In each of these

United States With the Sterling Area

[Millions of dollars]

Other Western Europe						Dependencies						All other countries					
1951	1952					1951	1952					1951	1952				
	Year	I	II	III *	IV *		Year	I	II	III *	IV *		Year	I	II	III *	IV *
61	53	20	9	10	14	205	211	54	53	50	54	1,041	952	380	236	165	171
7	4	3	(*)	(*)	(*)	30	20	6	5	4	5	106	73	32	18	11	12
1	1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	5	6	1	2	2	1	10	10	2	4	2	2
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	6	7	2	1	2	2	26	28	8	7	6	7
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	2	16	1	2	10	3
	2	(*)			2	79	89	21	25	22	21	(*)	57	69	14	15	20
						(*)						(*)	2	(*)	(*)	(*)	2
70	60	23	10	10	17	325	333	84	86	80	83	1,242	1,150	437	282	214	217
17	24	10	5	5	4	738	642	187	182	128	145	988	701	183	198	161	159
3	4	1	1	1	1	11	14	3	3	4	4	22	20	5	5	5	5
4	2	(*)	1	1	(*)	42	45	14	11	11	9	7	6	2	2	1	1
(*)	3	(*)	1	1	1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	2	1	1	(*)	(*)	(*)
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)			13	14	3	3	4	4	13	33	9	8	8	8
						2	4	1	1	1	1	1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
												(*)	(*)				
28	33	11	8	8	6	806	719	208	200	148	163	1,033	761	200	213	175	173
42	27	12	2	2	11	-481	-386	-124	-114	-68	-80	209	389	237	69	39	44
-9	-12	-2	-2	-3	-5	-13	-11	-2	-3	-3	-3	-13	-15	-4	-4	-3	-4
-22	-5	-1	-2	-1	-1							-13	-22	-2	-5	-9	-6
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
-31	-17	-3	-4	-4	-6	-13	-11	-2	-3	-3	-3	-28	-40	-7	-10	-13	-10
11	10	9	-2	-2	5	-434	-397	-126	-117	-71	-83	181	349	230	59	26	34
(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	6	34	1	13	15	5	-43	-57	-38	-15	-5	1
						8	1	(*)	1	(*)	(*)	-16	-18	-4	(*)	1	-15
						-1	3	1	1	1	(*)	8	31	-1	24	10	-2
-11	-1	(*)	-1			-11	-20	-2	-2	-16		-103	-114	-48	-30	-21	-15
-1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)		-1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)		10	6	-1	2	5	
-12	-1	(*)	-1	(*)		1	18	0	13	0	5	-144	-152	-92	-19	-10	-31
						6	2	-1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(*)		
9	0	1	-1	(*)	(*)	-19	6	5	-3	5	-1	83	-2	-28	16	-9	19
						4	5	2	1	1	1	-54	-13	-3	-12	2	(*)
9	0	1	-1	(*)	(*)	-9	13	6	-1	7	1	30	-13	-30	4	-6	19
-8	-9	-10	4	2	-5	502	366	120	105	64	77	-67	-184	-108	-44	-10	-22

* Military aid to the sterling area countries is not shown separately.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

cases there seems to have been a flow of capital which we have not been able to record in the normal way.

The first occurrence was in the second and third quarters of 1947; in the second quarter there appear to have been large unrecorded inflows of funds to the United States, which may have been induced by the near exhaustion of the \$3.75 billion loan to the United Kingdom, and this inflow was greatly reduced in the third and fourth quarters of 1947 when the convertibility of sterling was suspended. Again in the third quarter of 1949 there appear to have been large unrecorded capital inflows which were probably a result of the apparent impending devaluation of sterling; following the devaluation in September of that year there was a shift in the errors and omissions indicating a liquidation of the accumulated dollar assets.

It seems likely that the shift in the movement of unrecorded capital funds during the second half of 1952, mostly between the United States and the sterling area, was again responsible for the shift in the unaccounted-for transactions, and that a substantial part of the recovery of foreign reserves must be attributed to this factor. The following tabulation

reflects the changes in these transactions since the second half of 1951:

Unrecorded transactions and interarea transfers to other areas
(receipts from other areas (-))

		Sterling area	Rest of the world	Total unrecorded transactions
1951	Second half.....	442	-243	199
1952	First half.....	597	-164	433
	Second half.....	23	-218	-195

Several developments occurred in the sterling area which may have contributed to such capital movements. First, credit was restricted in the United Kingdom and interest rates rose during the second half of 1951 and the first half of 1952. The yield of Government bonds rose from 3.84 percent in June 1951 to 4.42 percent in June 1952. This 15 percent rise in yield was substantially higher than in any other of the major European countries or in the United States. When, during the first quarter of 1952, sterling area reserves were stabilized, both the higher yields and the restored confidence in the value of the pound sterling may have induced capital movements to the United Kingdom.

Offsetting in part the transactions which resulted in rising foreign dollar receipts were declines in Government economic grants and loans and private capital movements. Government grants and loans are discussed in the following article in this issue of the SURVEY. Various factors accounted for the change in net loan disbursements between the first three quarters and the last quarter of the year. Loans under the Mutual Security Act (10 percent of the aid under the fiscal 1952 appropriation had to be given in loans), and the utilization of the second half of the \$190 million grain loan to India provided most of the large disbursements during the first two quarters. The loan disbursements during the third quarter include a \$154 million advance by the Export-Import Bank to France against military contracts, of which \$49 million was repaid by the end of the year. Annual loan repayments of \$50 million by the United Kingdom added to the capital inflow during the last quarter of the year.

Private investments decline

Private capital movements declined during the year and were over \$100 million smaller than in 1951. The decline from 1951 was concentrated in portfolio investments, mostly in Canadian securities. Although direct investments in 1952 were about \$100 million higher than in 1951, the trend after the middle of the year was downward. Completion of facilities in the oil industry in Latin America and the Middle East appear to be a major factor in the decline. Increased supplies of oil and oil products in relation to demand may also have reduced the need for further expansion.

Canada is the major area where large direct investments are still going forward. Development of oil and mineral deposits appears to continue at previous rates, although there was an apparent high point in the second quarter resulting from the sale of securities by American controlled Canadian companies to obtain funds for later investment.

Temporary factors in reserve rise

In order to evaluate the significance of the changes in the balance of payments during 1952 it is important to examine whether the developments which on balance facilitated the relatively large accumulation of foreign reserves are likely to be temporary, or whether they may be expected to continue for some time.

The relatively greater rise in business activity in the United States as compared with foreign industrial nations is not likely to continue to the same extent. Textile production abroad, one of the major industries which held down overall foreign production, was again on the upswing at the end of the year. This may indicate that the demand for textile raw materials, including cotton, was near bottom during the last months of the year. At the same time, however, excess capacity in the metal products industries appeared to be rising in the United Kingdom. In the event that British industries are successful in utilizing their excess capacity in the metal products industries for increased exports, competition for similar exports from the United States may well rise.

The decline in exports of coal to overseas countries during the second half of 1952 was in part due to temporary factors. However, large stocks of coal abroad will postpone the need for imports even if the demand for coal should increase.

The rise in wheat production from 1951 to 1952 in Europe and Canada was somewhat more than the average rise during recent years and may have been due in part to unusually favorable weather conditions. Less favorable climatic conditions may again raise the demand for supplies from the United States. Inventories held abroad would, however, postpone an upturn in foreign purchases here, even if the foreign supply situation becomes less favorable.

Possibly another temporary factor was the movement of funds abroad as reflected in the changes of unrecorded transactions. Not only is the amount of funds available for transfer abroad limited, particularly if business activity here remains at a high level, but the recent rise in short-term interest rates in this country has probably reduced the incentive for such transfers.

The volume of merchandise imports required for current use in 1953 is likely to remain as high as in 1952, as long as the prospects for domestic business activity remain favorable. With a steady demand here and perhaps a rising demand abroad, prices of imported goods may not continue to decline below the last quarter of 1952 but even if prices stabilize at the level of that period, they would average about 3-4 percent lower—in 1953 than in 1952.

The major source from which foreign countries can expect higher dollar receipts is military expenditures, which are likely to increase as deliveries are made on contracts for military equipment previously placed.

Government aid, other than military, may be expected to continue the downward trend which has been taking place since 1949, although a temporary upturn of grants over the relatively low rate during the fourth quarter of 1952 is likely. Private investments, however, may not decline below the rate during the second half of 1952, since, with the exception of Canada, the net outflow of funds for direct investments had already shrunk to an annual rate of less than \$100 million.

On balance, therefore, it appears that, with favorable climatic conditions abroad and continued favorable business conditions in the United States, foreign countries should be able to raise their gold and dollar assets again in 1953, although probably at a slower rate. This tendency would be further strengthened if those foreign countries which had reduced their stocks of American goods, should resume their purchases, particularly of those goods which are essential for the continued operation of their economies. This may apply even to those countries which restricted imports from the United States through exchange controls.

Even if net dollar receipts by all foreign countries decline again during the year, the portion accruing to the sterling area may continue to rise, as it did during the closing months of last year. The increase in foreign gold purchases which started in December and which had continued during the first months of this year reflected largely the shift in foreign dollar earnings to the sterling area. British reserves, more so than those of most other countries, are usually held in gold rather than in the form of dollar deposits or other liquid dollar assets.

United States Foreign Aid in 1952

THE composition of United States Government foreign aid shifted during the course of 1952, with economic assistance declining and military aid rising. By the final quarter, military assistance was close to \$1 billion, and made up over two-thirds of the gross foreign aid.

Total gross aid of \$5.6 billion was 10 percent more than in the preceding year. For the entire year, military aid amounted to \$2¼ billion—almost double the 1951 figure—and comprised 49 percent of all gross aid.

The reduction in economic assistance programed for the fiscal year beginning July 1951 was reflected in the actual aid provided in 1952. Gross economic assistance contracted to less than half a billion dollars in the December quarter; it totaled \$2.8 billion for the calendar year as a whole—one-fifth less than in 1951.

During the year Congress raised the required counterpart return for economic grants under the mutual-security program from 5 to 10 percent; in the last quarter, these counterpart collections showed a corresponding increase which reduced net economic aid. Another major factor in the decline of net economic assistance in 1952 was the larger repayments on postwar credits, several of which had terms deferring principal repayments until last year. Thus, in the last quarter of 1952, credit repayments exceeded credit utilizations by \$107 million.

Grants six-sevenths of total

Grants continued to dominate foreign aid last year despite the fact that credit utilizations doubled to comprise 15 percent of gross aid. As a result of the large credit repayments, net credit utilizations were \$400 million, or 8 percent of the annual net foreign aid. This 1952 net credit utilization raised to \$10.7 billion foreign indebtedness on loans and other credits made by the United States Government since the beginning of World War II. The United States Government collected \$204 million in interest on this indebtedness in 1952.

Most of the outstanding indebtedness was built up in the early postwar period. Credit utilization constituted 38 percent of the gross aid in the postwar period prior to the Communist invasion of the Republic of Korea.

Postwar aid \$41 billion

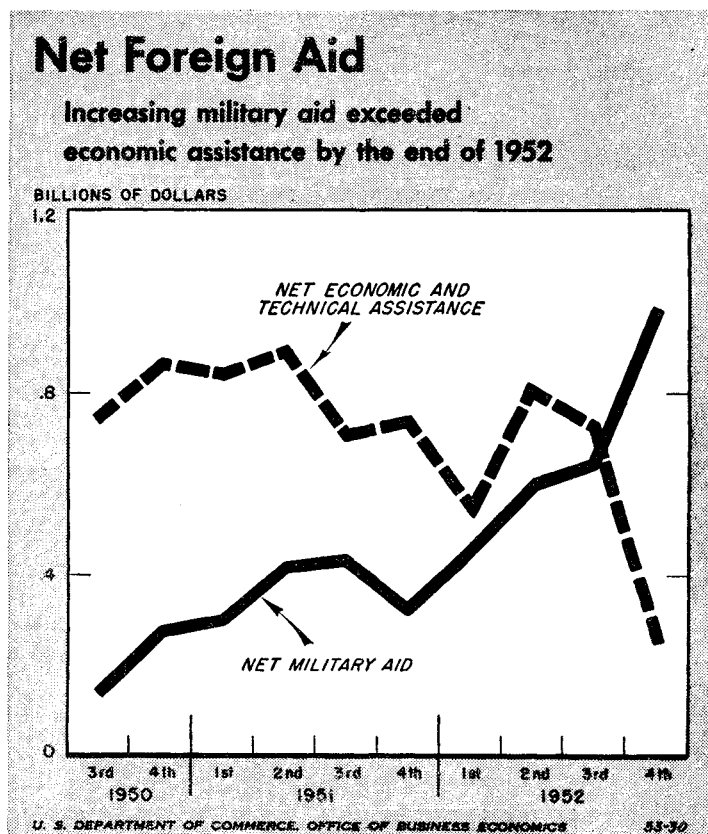
Gross foreign aid for the postwar period through 1952 totals \$41 billion, exclusive of the Government's investment of \$3.4 billion in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund. Net foreign aid in the same 7½-year period totals nearly \$38 billion. At the present rate, net foreign aid since V-J Day will soon exceed the total of the 5-year war period.

Most of the foreign-aid programs of the United States Government were integrated into one mutual-security program in 1951. Through the latter program the United States Government now provides aid to other nations in the effort to improve their economic and military stability and security. Mutual-security-program foreign aid includes military and economic and technical assistance.

Mutual-security program

Aid furnished under the mutual-security program comprised 88 percent of gross foreign aid in 1952, in comparison with 86 percent in 1951 and 75 percent for comparable programs in 1950. Under the coordination of the Director for Mutual Security the nonmilitary or economic aid programs are operated for the most part by the Mutual Security Agency and by the Technical Cooperation Administration of the State Department. Military aid is provided by the Defense Department.

The significant portions of foreign economic aid not provided under the mutual-security program include the credits of the Export-Import Bank, which accounted for 9 percent



The emerging predominance of military aid is even more strikingly portrayed on the basis of net foreign aid, as can be seen in the accompanying chart. Net foreign aid, which takes into account the receipts by the United States Government of reverse grants and returns on grants, as well as the repayment of credits, was \$5 billion in 1952.

NOTE—MR. KERBER IS A MEMBER OF THE CLEARING OFFICE FOR FOREIGN TRANSACTIONS, OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS.

of gross 1952 aid, and civilian-supply grants by the Army Department to Korea and the Ryukyu Islands.

Western Europe major beneficiary

In the last quarter of 1951, the European program for economic and technical assistance represented the largest individual component and comprised one-half of gross foreign aid. A sharp decline has since occurred in European economic aid. In 1952 this segment represented less than one-third of gross foreign aid. In the final quarter it was one-fifth.

Nevertheless, Western Europe continued in 1952 to be the largest beneficiary of United States Government foreign aid. It received mutual-security-program military aid totaling \$2¼ billion in the year, double such aid in the preceding year. This total in the year 1952 was more than the aggregate of military grants to the area in the entire preceding 6½-year postwar period.

The doubling of military aid to the European countries participating in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) more than offset the \$625-million decline in economic assistance to Western Europe in 1952. Gross foreign aid to the area amounted to \$4¼ billion, up 14 percent.

Military aid strengthens allies

Military aid provided to European countries in 1952 included \$2,062 million representing shipment of actual military equipment, \$83 million in services (including military training) and \$34 million for the ocean freight of the material when carried on United States vessels.

During the past calendar year the United States Government also contributed \$73 million to NATO toward the cost of fixed facilities which are needed for effective defense and which are used jointly by the integrated combat forces under the NATO program. The United States is participating with Canada and eight other NATO nations in a multilateral financing of these common facilities.

The total for the first three annual construction programs amounts to \$739 million, of which the United States Government is to contribute \$288 million. In December 1952 the NATO Council voted to build \$230 million worth of the fourth annual program, and in February 1953 approval for this fourth program was increased to \$450 million. The United States contribution to the December authorization has been announced as \$92 million.

Aid fosters European integration

The United States programs for aid to Western Europe recognize the need to encourage and facilitate the mutual efforts of the European community to increase its defense and economic status by political federation, military integration, and economic unification. In the Mutual Security Act of 1952 the Congress specifically directed that the program should be administered to support these ends. During 1952 the High Authority for the European Coal and Steel Community, joining the coal and steel industries of six continental

nations, began operations. The treaty establishing the European Defense Community was signed in May 1952 and is pending ratification by the participating nations. Congress has authorized the provision of military aid directly to the European Defense Community.

The European Payments Union (EPU), by which members of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation engage in multilateral exchange clearance, received no direct assistance from the United States Government in 1952. In 1950 and 1951, payments of \$43 million and \$195 million, respectively, were made to EPU as part of mutual-security-program economic assistance. These funds constitute a contribution to the capital of EPU. Of the previous United States Government pledge to the capital fund, \$123 million was still available at the end of 1952. Although no additional capital contributions were made to EPU in 1952, over \$135 million was granted as United States Government economic aid to Austria, Greece, Iceland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom to assist these countries in meeting their obligations to EPU.

Country changes

Declines were effected in the economic aid furnished to most European countries in 1952. The decreases ranged from 23 percent for Yugoslavia to 84 percent for Denmark. The contraction in economic aid followed the general economic recovery throughout Europe. Gold and dollar resources of Western European countries (excluding Switzerland and the United Kingdom) rose from \$4½ billion to \$5½ billion during the year. Early in 1953 the Netherlands announced that it would not require any fiscal year 1953 allotments, in view of the improvement in its hard-currency position.

Ireland and Sweden received almost no aid at all in the last year, in contrast to the approximately \$25 million each had been furnished in 1951. Allotments of mutual-security-program economic aid were terminated for these two nations beginning with fiscal year 1952.

On the other hand, nonmilitary aid to Turkey increased 15 percent. Spain, with postwar aid confined to credit utilizations in 1951 and 1952, drew more in the latter year—principally from the special \$62½-million congressional loan authorization made as part of the mutual-security-program appropriation in September 1950.

Gross economic aid to France and the United Kingdom rose during the past year. The total to these two countries constituted half of the economic assistance afforded Western Europe.

United Kingdom again receives large aid

The United Kingdom in 1951 dropped from the position of the largest recipient of United States Government economic assistance, in consequence of the almost complete cessation of aid allocations for that country after December 31, 1950. However, that nation experienced an adverse shift in its net dollar and gold position in the last six months of 1951, sustaining a drain of over \$1½ billion upon its gold and dollar resources. During this period the United Kingdom sold \$950 million in gold to the United States.

Despite restrictions of dollar imports and other controls exercised by the British Commonwealth countries in the sterling area, continuing deterioration made necessary a

NOTE.—For a detailed description of aid furnished during the war period and the 5-year postwar period prior to the Korean invasion see the *Foreign Aid* supplement to the *SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS*, published November 1952. Available at \$1 from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. or the various Department of Commerce Field Offices.

Table 1.—Summary of Foreign Aid (Grants and Credits), by Program: July 1, 1945, Through Dec. 31, 1952

[Millions of dollars]

Program	Total postwar period	Before Korean invasion	After Korean invasion											
			Total	July-December 1950	1951					1952				
					Total	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Total	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
Gross foreign aid ¹	41,034	28,159	12,875	2,223	5,074	1,236	1,383	1,250	1,205	5,578	1,088	1,537	1,523	1,430
Grants utilized.....	30,247	18,824	11,423	2,021	4,646	1,114	1,287	1,146	1,098	4,756	885	1,291	1,215	1,365
Less: Credit-agreement offsets to grants.....	1,256	1,256												
Credits utilized.....	12,044	10,591	1,452	201	428	122	96	104	106	823	203	246	309	65
Less: Returns	3,422	2,178	1,243	217	452	103	84	117	148	574	90	137	148	199
Reverse grants and returns on grants.....	1,230	874	356	65	140	39	35	33	34	151	27	75	22	27
Principal collected on credits.....	2,191	1,304	887	152	312	64	49	84	114	423	63	62	126	172
Equals: Net foreign aid	37,612	25,981	11,631	2,006	4,622	1,133	1,299	1,133	1,056	5,004	998	1,400	1,375	1,231
Net grants.....	27,760	16,693	11,067	1,956	4,506	1,075	1,252	1,114	1,064	4,605	858	1,216	1,193	1,338
Net credits.....	9,852	9,287	565	50	116	58	47	19	-8	399	140	184	182	-107
Grants utilized	30,247	18,824	11,423	2,021	4,646	1,114	1,287	1,146	1,098	4,756	885	1,291	1,215	1,365
Lend-lease.....	1,932	1,932												
Mutual security:														
Economic and technical assistance.....	12,711	7,004	5,707	1,189	2,668	647	690	622	708	1,850	382	595	521	352
Military aid ²	4,687	63	4,624	402	1,484	306	414	430	335	2,739	457	651	650	981
Civilian supplies.....	5,340	4,564	776	257	366	90	148	81	46	154	44	43	41	26
UNRRA, post-UNRRA, and interim aid.....	3,443	3,443												
Philippine rehabilitation.....	634	519	115	100	12	4	4	2	1	4	1	1	2	(?)
Greek-Turkish aid.....	659	636	23	15	9	3	3	3	1	(?)	(?)	(?)		
Chinese stabilization and military aid.....	243	238	5	2	3	(?)	2	(?)	(?)					
Other.....	597	426	171	56	105	64	26	8	7	10	1	1	1	7
Reverse grants and returns on grants	1,230	874	356	65	140	39	35	33	34	151	27	75	22	27
Reverse lend-lease.....	133	133												
Return of lend-lease ships.....	370	287	83		23	10			13	60	2	58	(?)	
War-account cash settlements.....	120	120												
Counterpart funds:														
Economic and technical assistance.....	591	333	258	63	110	27	33	30	20	85	22	17	20	26
Military aid.....	16	1	15	3	6	1	2	3	1	6	2	(?)	2	1
Credits utilized	12,044	10,591	1,452	201	428	122	96	104	106	823	203	246	309	65
British loan.....	3,750	3,750												
Export-Import Bank (for own account).....	3,415	2,651	763	81	204	79	66	30	28	478	79	106	244	49
Direct loans.....	3,237	2,498	789	84	222	83	81	30	28	483	80	106	247	49
Loans through agent banks.....	127	153	⁵ Cr 26	⁵ Cr 3	⁵ Cr 18	⁵ Cr 4	⁵ Cr 15	(?)	(?)	⁵ Cr 5	⁵ Cr 2	(?)	⁵ Cr 3	(?)
Surplus property (including merchant ships).....	1,487	1,484	2	(?)	2	(?)	1		1					
Credit-agreement offsets to grants.....	1,256	1,256												
Lend-lease (excluding settlement credits).....	71	69	2	(?)						2	2			
Mutual security (including loans to Spain and India).....	1,608	990	617	78	209	39	25	70	75	331	121	135	62	14
Other.....	458	390	67	42	13	4	4	4	2	12	2	4	4	2
Principal collected on credits	2,191	1,304	887	152	312	64	49	84	114	423	63	62	126	172
British loan.....	90		90		44				44	45				45
Export-Import Bank (for own account).....	1,125	632	493	88	134	31	19	33	51	271	46	39	86	99
Direct loans.....	953	482	470	74	130	30	18	32	50	267	45	38	86	98
Loans through agent banks.....	172	149	23	14	5	1	2	1	2	4	1	2	(?)	1
Surplus property (including merchant ships).....	276	123	153	25	56	22	13	11	12	71	13	15	28	16
Credit-agreement offsets to grants.....	62	22	40	1	21	1	1	13	7	18	(?)	(?)	11	7
Lend-lease (excluding settlement credits).....	40	21	19	6	7	1	(?)	5	(?)	6	1	(?)	(?)	5
Other ⁶	600	507	93	33	49	10	16	23		12	3	7	1	(?)

1. Foreign aid is defined to comprise two categories—grants and credits. Grants are largely outright gifts for which no payment is expected, or which at most involve an obligation on the part of the receiver to extend aid to the United States or other countries to achieve a common objective. Credits are loans or other agreements which give rise to specific obligations to repay, over a period of years, usually with interest. In some instances assistance has been given with the understanding that a decision as to repayment will be made at a later date; such assistance is included in grants. At such time as an agreement is reached for repayment over a period of years, a credit is established. Because such credits, cannot, as a rule, be deducted from specific grants recorded in previous periods, they are included in both grants (at the earlier period) and credits (at the time of the agreement), and the amounts of such credit-agreement offsets to grants are deducted from the total grants and credits in arriving at gross foreign aid. All known returns to the United States Government stemming from grants and credits are taken into account in net foreign aid. Gross foreign aid less the returns is net foreign aid, which is shown as net grants and net credits. The measure of foreign aid generally is in terms of goods delivered or shipped by the United States Government, services rendered by the United States Government, or cash disbursed by the United States Government to or for the account of a foreign government or other foreign entity. The Government's capital investments in the International Bank (\$635 million) and International Monetary Fund (\$2,750 million) are not included in gross foreign aid although they constitute an additional measure taken by this Government to promote foreign economic recovery. Payments to these international financial institutions do not result in immediate equivalent aid to foreign countries. Use of available dollar funds is largely determined by the managements of the two institutions, subject to certain restraints which can be exercised by the United States Government.

Further definition and explanation of these data are contained in the *Foreign Aid* supplement to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, published November 1952.

2. Includes contributions to multilateral-construction program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

3. Less than \$500,000.

4. Negative entry of less than \$500,000 results from refunds of cash aid.

5. Negative entry results from excess of EIB repurchases from agent banks over agent-bank disbursements.

6. Includes less than \$1 million collections on mutual-security program credits.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

Table 2.—Summary of Foreign Aid (Grants and Credits), by Major Country: July 1, 1945, Through Dec. 31, 1952—Continued

(Millions of dollars)

Major country ¹	Total postwar period	Before Korean invasion	After Korean invasion											
			Total	July-December 1950	1951					1952				
					Total	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Total	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
Other and unspecified Western Europe: ^{1 6 7}														
Gross and net foreign aid.....	4,339	275	4,064	401	1,348	249	368	360	371	2,316	381	567	515	853
Other Europe:														
Gross foreign aid.....	1,160	1,160												
Less: Returns.....	72	53	19	(3)	15	(3)	1		13	4	1	1	2	1
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	1,088	1,107	-19	(4)	-15	(4)	-1		-13	-4	-1	-1	-2	-1
Near East and Africa: ⁷														
Gross foreign aid.....	448	130	318	37	94	17	19	16	43	187	37	75	41	35
Less: Returns.....	152	136	16	2	3	(3)	1	(3)	1	12	2	1	3	6
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	296	-6	302	35	91	17	17	16	41	176	35	74	38	29
Iran:														
Gross foreign aid.....	42	24	18	(3)	4	(3)	2	1	2	14	1	8	3	2
Less: Returns.....	15	10	4		(3)				(3)	4				4
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	27	14	14	(3)	4	(3)	2	1	2	10	1	8	3	-2
Israel:														
Gross foreign aid.....	218	32	186	16	57	8	12	10	27	113	22	47	32	11
Less: Returns.....	4		4							4	2	(3)	2	
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	214	32	182	16	57	8	12	10	27	109	21	46	30	11
Other and unspecified Near East and Africa: ^{6 7}														
Gross foreign aid.....	188	74	114	21	33	9	5	5	14	61	14	20	5	21
Less: Returns.....	134	126	8	2	3	(3)	1	(3)	1	3	(3)	1	1	2
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	54	-52	106	19	30	9	4	5	13	57	13	19	5	20
Asia and Pacific:														
Gross foreign aid.....	7,190	4,970	2,220	400	942	189	241	229	284	878	188	233	260	198
Less: Returns.....	536	484	52	6	23	5	8	6	4	23	6	12	4	2
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	6,654	4,486	2,168	394	920	183	234	223	280	855	182	220	256	196
China—Taiwan (Formosa):														
Gross foreign aid.....	1,919	1,755	163	12	73	14	13	15	32	79	24	19	20	16
Less: Returns.....	125	113	12	4	6	2	2	(3)	1	2	(3)	1	(3)	(3)
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	1,794	1,642	152	8	67	12	10	14	31	76	24	18	19	15
India:														
Gross foreign aid.....	250	45	205	1	110	2	1	43	64	94	40	26	25	3
Less: Returns.....	33	31	2		2			2						
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	217	14	202	1	108	2	1	40	64	94	40	26	25	3
Indochina:														
Gross foreign aid.....	37	(3)	37	1	14	1	2	4	7	22	4	8	6	4
Less: Returns.....	3		3		1	(3)	(3)	1	(3)	1	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	35	(3)	35	1	13	1	2	4	6	21	4	7	6	4
Indonesia:														
Gross foreign aid.....	208	168	39	1	3	(3)	(3)	(3)	3	35	8	14	11	2
Less: Returns.....	9	4	5	1	3		(3)	2	1	2	(3)		1	(3)
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	198	164	34	(4)	1	(3)	(3)	-2	2	33	8	14	10	2
Japan and Ryukyu Islands:														
Gross foreign aid.....	2,414	1,936	478	131	285	79	128	60	17	62	5	46	9	2
Less: Returns.....	293	286	7	1	3	2			(3)	4	(3)	3	(3)	(3)
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	2,121	1,650	471	130	283	77	128	60	17	58	4	43	9	2
Korea:														
Gross foreign aid.....	717	386	330	64	119	16	23	35	44	148	51	33	39	25
Less: Returns.....	13	12	(3)		(3)	(3)								
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	704	374	330	64	118	16	23	35	44	148	51	33	39	25
Philippines:														
Gross foreign aid.....	807	634	173	135	17	4	4	3	6	21	3	7	7	4
Less: Returns.....	30	14	16	(2)	4	(3)	4	(3)	(3)	11	4	7	(3)	(3)
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	778	620	157	135	13	4	1	2	5	9	-1	(3)	7	4
Other and unspecified Asia and Pacific: ^{1 6}														
Gross foreign aid.....	839	44	794	56	320	71	69	69	111	418	53	80	143	142
Less: Returns.....	31	23	7	1	3	(3)	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	808	21	787	56	317	71	67	68	111	414	52	79	142	141
American Republics:														
Gross foreign aid.....	941	515	427	42	206	59	49	47	52	179	53	42	53	31
Less: Returns.....	305	172	133	34	47	10	11	15	11	52	10	15	8	18
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	637	343	294	8	159	48	38	32	41	127	43	26	45	12
Canada:														
Gross foreign aid.....	150	142	8	1	1	(3)	(3)		1	6		4	2	1
Less: Returns.....	143	141	2	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)		1	(3)	1	(3)	
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	7	1	6	(3)	1	(3)	(3)	(3)	1	5	(3)	3	1	1
Unspecified: ⁶														
Gross foreign aid.....	1,017	744	273	72	121	65	20	16	19	81	26	20	14	22
Less: Returns.....	2		2		1			1		1			1	
Equals: Net foreign aid.....	1,015	744	271	72	120	65	20	15	19	80	26	20	13	22

1. For security reasons data by country do not include the military aid furnished under the mutual-security program. However, such aid is included in the appropriate area totals as a component part of "Other and unspecified" items. Gross aid shown for individual countries for the period after the Korean invasion represents economic aid only. The aid shown in the table includes credits which have been extended to private entities in the country specified; the net foreign aid shown for Canada, for example, represents credits extended to private entities in Canada.

2. See footnote 1 to table 1.

3. Less than \$500,000.

4. Negative entry of less than \$500,000.

5. Negative entry results from refunds of cash aid.

6. Includes aid furnished through international organizations.

7. Military aid under the Mutual Security Act, title II (Near East and Africa), is primarily for Greece and Turkey and is included with "Other and unspecified Western Europe."

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

renewed flow of aid to forestall a considerable reduction in the United Kingdom defense program. Thus, the United Kingdom received a large allocation of defense-support aid in February 1952, and was second only to France in the economic aid utilized last year.

As a result of the efforts of the sterling-area countries, buttressed by United States aid, the United Kingdom was able to halt the reserve drain. By the end of 1952, it raised its gold and dollar holdings a quarter billion dollars above the low point reached in April. After selling \$520 million of gold to the United States in the first quarter, the United Kingdom repurchased \$80 million in the final quarter of last year.

Loan to France

Although gross economic aid to France and its dependent areas was larger than that to the United Kingdom, on a net basis economic aid to France was considerably less. The French situation is extraordinary, because of special developments in offshore procurement of military aid.

Offshore procurement as part of the mutual-security military-aid program refers to those military supplies and equipment which are produced abroad, paid for abroad by the United States, and then transferred by the United States Government to recipient governments as military aid. In the course of providing materiel for NATO forces as direct military aid, offshore procurement results in economic gains for the countries involved, as it expands productive capacity for military equipment and assists the European countries by increasing their dollar earnings.

Generally, there is a long lead-time in military production, and payments for offshore procurement are not ordinarily made until deliveries take place. Thus, considerable time could elapse before dollars would accrue to France for the contracts let. Since the French dollar stringency was immediate and serious, an Export-Import Bank loan was arranged.

Gross aid to France included disbursements of \$154 million on the Export-Import Bank loan authorized in June. This loan was limited to the dollar amounts of certain contracts placed by the Defense Department in France; by the end of the year repayments of the loan totaling \$49 million were made on French account by the Defense Department based on deliveries certified by the French Government.

Offshore procurement large

More than \$750 million in contracts for offshore procurement of military aid were let in Europe in 1952. Almost half, or \$345 million, of these contracts were in France. Large contracts were also placed in Italy (\$184 million) and the United Kingdom (\$146 million). During the year, the Defense Department disbursed approximately \$80 million on these contracts; about \$65 million of this was expended in France (including the \$49 million repaid to the Export-Import Bank).

Most Asia and Pacific aid rises

Cessation of grant aid to Japan after 1951 more than accounted for the decline in total aid to the Asia and Pacific area in 1952. Following the start of the Korean conflict, Japan became a staging area for United Nations operations. With increased Japanese dollar earnings from the large United Nations operations there, it became possible to stop the Army civilian-supply grant program in 1952; such aid had totaled \$247 million in 1951. Japan did utilize a loan

of \$40 million from the Export-Import Bank for the purchase of cotton in 1952.

Military aid to the Asia and Pacific area rose by one-third in 1952, aggregating nearly \$400 million for the entire year. The cost of United States military operations in support of the United Nations effort in Korea is not included in the foreign-aid data tabulated here.

Nonmilitary assistance to Asia and Pacific countries other than Japan increased one-tenth in 1952. Of the total of \$447 million in the year, one-third represented civilian-supply grants to Korea. Shipments and disbursements against the wheat loan for India totaled \$84 million. In the last half of the year India received the first major economic and technical assistance grants under the cooperative mutual-security program. Disbursements of \$6½ million were made in the last quarter against the emergency wheat loan to Pakistan announced in September. Economic and technical assistance to Taiwan increased slightly from the preceding year, totaling \$79 million.

Near East assistance

Economic aid to the Near East and Africa area doubled in the last calendar year, aggregating \$184 million. Israel was the recipient of almost two-thirds of the total aid to the area in both 1951 and 1952. Three-fourths of the aid to Israel in 1951 and one-fourth in 1952 represented disburse-

Table 3.—Mutual-Security Program Reimbursable Military Transfers

[Millions of dollars]

Area	Net cash deposits through Dec. 31, 1952	Shipments and services furnished			Balance with U. S. Government Dec. 31, 1952
		1950	1951	1952	
Total	354	1	72	120	160
Western Hemisphere.....	284	1	68	97	119
Western Europe.....	22	(1)	1	3	17
Other areas.....	47	(1)	4	19	24

1. Less than \$500,000.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics.

ments on the Export-Import Bank loan to that country. Since the last quarter of 1951 Israel has received economic assistance under the mutual-security program. Such grants for relief and resettlement and for general economic development totaled \$82 million in 1952.

The United States Government also contributed through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees to provide food, shelter, and medical attention for the Arab refugees who fled Palestine. Both in 1951 and in 1952 these grants exceeded \$20 million.

The other major beneficiary in the Near East and Africa was Iran, where 1952 technical assistance was nearly 14 million.

Loans to American Republics decline

The decline in foreign aid to the American Republics in 1952 was a consequence of a 22-percent decrease in drawings on loans of the Export-Import Bank to the area, principally to Argentina. That country, which had received \$92 million in 1951, drew only \$5 million last year. Mexico, on the other hand, increased its credit utilization from \$3 million to \$40 million. Over half of these loans were for the rehabilitation of the Mexican National Railways. Loans to the other American Republics increased to aggregate \$55 million in 1952.

During 1952 technical-assistance grants were continued to these countries by the Institute of Inter-American Affairs as part of the mutual-security program. Such grants amounted to \$16 million in 1952, almost double the sum in the preceding year. Foreign aid to Mexico in the cooperative program for the eradication of the foot-and-mouth disease in that country constituted an additional technical-assistance grant of \$3 million in 1952.

The American Republics also received first shipments of mutual-security-program military aid procured from United States Government appropriated funds in the last year. In addition the grant assistance shown in tables 1 and 2 includes the difference between the original acquisition cost of certain United States Government military equipment (particularly vessels) transferred to these countries and the amounts paid by the foreign country under the reimbursable-assistance authority of the Mutual Defense Assistance Act of 1949.¹ A moderate decline in military aid to the American Republics occurred in 1952, the total grant amounting to \$59 million.

Military equipment sold

As part of the mutual-security program, the United States sells military equipment to its allies which are able to pay for their own rearmament. On a reimbursable basis the United States transfers from its military stocks and procures goods for its allies to use in their rearmament. These sales are not part of the foreign-aid totals in tables 1 and 2.

1. Excess military equipment transferred as grants under the mutual-security-program authorizations is stated in all compilations at original acquisition value, for which the Congress periodically establishes transfer limitations. When identical or similar items are sold to foreign countries, the same method of valuation is used in accounting for the transfer, credit being given for the cash deposit of the foreign government and the difference being incorporated into tables 1 and 2 as grant aid.

As of the end of 1952, the United States Government had received net deposits of \$354 million for supplies and services, principally from Western Hemisphere nations. In addition \$209 million more was on order under contracts, to be paid for by the purchasing foreign governments before the materiel and services are furnished by the United States Government.

Deliveries have totaled \$193 million against the deposits, and, as shown in table 3, increased markedly last year.

Nonaid expenditures abroad

The expansion of United States foreign operations since the Communist invasion of Korea has led to increased dollar payments abroad by the Government for goods and services. This has been a contributing factor in the decreased necessity for economic aid abroad.

Net foreign dollar disbursements by the United States Government for goods and services have more than tripled since the start of the Korean conflict, as follows:

	<i>Millions of dollars</i>
July-December 1950.....	400
January-June 1951.....	650
July-December 1951.....	900
January-June 1952.....	1,200
July-December 1952 (estimated).....	1,250

Approximately one-third of the \$2½-billion net expenditure by the United States Government abroad in 1952 was disbursed in Western Europe. Japan, as noted above, has received a substantial share of the post-Korean invasion increase.

1953 Investment Programs Increased

(Continued from page 6)

a 5-percent increase in outlays planned by nondurable-goods producers, and a decline of the same magnitude in planned expenditures by the durable-goods industries.

Within the latter group, most of the decline is expected in primary iron and steel, nonferrous metals and nonautomotive transportation equipment. Machinery (both electrical and nonelectrical) are planning substantial increases in investment, while most other major durable-goods industries expect little change in outlays from 1952 rates.

Among nondurable-goods producers, larger-than-average increases in plant and equipment expenditures are scheduled by petroleum, chemicals, paper and beverage companies. Food and rubber companies expect to maintain last year's rates of fixed investment.

Except for the planned cutback in capital expenditures by the railroads, all major nonmanufacturing groups are contemplating maintenance or expansion of their 1952 rates of investment during 1953.

Nonmanufacturers' programs generally higher

The 14 percent expected rise from 1952 in spending by the public utilities reflects a planned 15-percent increase by electric power companies, and an 11-percent rise in schedules of gas companies. In mining, substantially higher anticipated outlays by oil and gas extraction companies are supplemented by more moderate increases in other major mining industries.

Monthly BUSINESS STATISTICS



THE STATISTICS here are a continuation of the data published in BUSINESS STATISTICS, the 1951 Statistical Supplement to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS. That volume (price \$1.50) contains monthly data for the years 1947 to 1950, and monthly averages for earlier years back to 1935 insofar as available; it also provides a description of each series and references to sources of monthly figures prior to 1947. Series added or revised since publication of the 1951 Supplement are indicated by an asterisk (*) and a dagger (†), respectively, the accompanying footnote indicating where historical data and a descriptive note may be found. The terms "unadjusted" and "adjusted" used to designate index numbers and dollar values refer to adjustment of monthly figures for seasonal variation.

Statistics originating in Government agencies are not copyrighted and may be reprinted freely. Data from private sources are provided through the courtesy of the compilers, and are subject to their copyrights.

Unless otherwise stated, statistics through 1950 and descriptive notes are shown in the 1951 Statistical Supplement to the Survey	1952												1953
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

NATIONAL INCOME AND PRODUCT†													
Seasonally adjusted quarterly totals at annual rates:													
National income, total..... bil. of dol.			288.0			285.6			287.7				300.2
Compensation of employees, total..... do.			186.5			186.9			190.3				197.9
Wages and salaries, total..... do.			177.4			177.8			181.0				188.2
Private..... do.			145.8			145.6			148.3				153.3
Military..... do.			10.0			10.2							
Government civilian..... do.			21.7			21.9							
Supplements to wages and salaries..... do.			9.0			9.2			9.3				9.6
Proprietors' and rental income, total‡..... do.			52.1			51.9			52.5				53.6
Business and professional‡..... do.			27.3			27.6			27.5				28.2
Farm..... do.			15.4			14.8			15.2				15.5
Rental income of persons..... do.			9.4			9.5			9.8				10.0
Corporate profits and inventory valuation adjustment, total..... bil. of dol.			42.7			39.0			37.8				41.5
Corporate profits before tax, total..... do.			42.7			38.2			37.2				40.3
Corporate profits tax liability..... do.			24.3			21.8			21.2				23.0
Corporate profits after tax..... do.			18.4			16.4			16.0				17.3
Inventory valuation adjustment..... do.			— .1			1.7			.6				1.2
Net interest..... do.			6.7			6.9			7.1				7.2
Gross national product, total..... do.			339.7			342.6			343.0				360.1
Personal consumption expenditures, total..... do.			213.2			214.9			215.0				222.0
Durable goods..... do.			25.2			26.4			24.2				27.3
Nondurable goods..... do.			118.0			117.8			118.9				121.4
Services..... do.			70.0			70.8			71.9				73.3
Gross private domestic investment..... do.			50.0			49.3			51.7				57.3
New construction..... do.			23.7			23.6			23.0				23.7
Producers' durable equipment..... do.			25.7			25.7			25.0				25.6
Change in business inventories..... do.			.6			.1			3.7				8.1
Net foreign investment..... do.			2.2			.4			— 1.6				.2
Government purchases of goods and services, total..... bil. of dol.			74.4			78.0			77.9				80.6
Federal (less Government sales)..... do.			51.2			54.9			54.8				56.6
National security §..... do.			46.4			50.3			49.6				50.4
State and local..... do.			23.2			23.0			23.1				24.0
Personal income, total..... do.			263.0			264.4			268.9				277.0
Less: Personal tax and nontax payments..... do.			33.5			33.6			34.1				34.6
Equals: Disposable personal income..... do.			229.5			230.8			234.8				242.5
Personal savings§..... do.			16.3			15.9			19.8				20.5
PERSONAL INCOME, BY SOURCE†													
Seasonally adjusted, at annual rates:													
Total personal income..... bil. of dol.	263.4	263.5	261.9	262.5	264.5	266.7	263.9	269.6	273.8	276.1	275.8	280.0	280.5
Wage and salary disbursements, total..... do.	176.7	178.0	177.3	176.7	177.9	179.3	177.4	182.5	185.3	187.5	187.9	189.9	190.3
Commodity-producing industries..... do.	77.3	78.2	77.7	76.9	76.7	77.2	74.0	78.7	81.6	82.9	83.5	85.4	85.1
Distributive industries..... do.	47.1	47.1	47.0	47.0	47.7	48.5	49.3	49.4	49.3	49.9	49.6	50.0	50.3
Service industries..... do.	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	21.3	21.3	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.8	21.9	21.9	22.1
Government..... do.	31.5	31.8	31.8	31.8	32.2	32.3	32.6	32.9	32.8	32.9	32.9	32.8	32.8
Wage and salary receipts, total..... do.	173.1	174.5	173.9	173.4	174.6	175.8	173.9	179.0	181.9	184.0	184.4	186.4	186.6
Other labor income..... do.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7
Proprietors' and rental income..... do.	53.4	52.1	50.7	51.2	51.7	52.8	52.2	51.8	53.4	53.5	52.9	54.6	54.7
Personal interest income and dividends..... do.	20.1	20.5	21.0	21.5	21.5	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.2
Transfer payments..... do.	12.8	12.4	12.4	12.3	12.6	12.5	12.4	13.1	12.9	13.0	12.8	13.4	13.6
Less personal contributions for social insurance ○..... bil. of dol.	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.0
Total nonagricultural income..... do.	241.7	243.4	242.7	242.9	244.9	245.9	243.4	249.4	253.0	255.4	255.7	258.8	259.0
NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES†													
All industries, quarterly total..... mil. of dol.			6,228			6,913			6,420			17,298	
Manufacturing..... do.			2,742			3,264			2,934			13,512	
Mining..... do.			208			220			201			1,221	
Railroads..... do.			362			381			290			1,365	
Transportation, other than rail..... do.			361			378			310			1,345	
Public utilities..... do.			847			957			970			1,187	
Commercial and other..... do.			1,708			1,713			1,715			1,688	

† Revised. ‡ Preliminary. § Estimates for October-December based on anticipated capital expenditures of business.
 ○ Revised series. Quarterly estimates of national income and product and quarterly and monthly estimates of personal income have been revised beginning 1949; see pp. 29-31 of the July 1952 SURVEY for the data. § Includes inventory valuation adjustment. ¶ Government sales are not deducted. § Personal saving is excess of disposable income over personal consumption expenditures shown as a component of gross national product above. ○ Data through 1951 represent employee contributions only; thereafter, personal contributions of self-employed persons are also included. † Revised beginning 1939. For revised annual data for 1939-51 and for quarterly data beginning 1947, see pp. 20 and 21 of the August 1952 SURVEY.

Unless otherwise stated, statistics through 1950 and descriptive notes are shown in the 1951 Statistical Supplement to the Survey

1952

1953

January February March April May June July August September October November December January

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS—Continued

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION—Continued

Federal Reserve Index—Continued

Adjusted—Continued

Manufactures—Continued

Nondurable manufactures—Continued

Paper and pulp..... 1935-39=100.....

Printing and publishing..... do.....

Tobacco products..... do.....

Minerals..... do.....

Metals..... do.....

BUSINESS SALES AND INVENTORIES††

Business sales (adjusted), total..... mil. of dol.....

Manufacturing, total..... do.....

Durable-goods industries..... do.....

Nondurable-goods industries..... do.....

Wholesale trade, total..... do.....

Durable-goods establishments..... do.....

Nondurable-goods establishments..... do.....

Retail trade, total..... do.....

Durable-goods stores..... do.....

Nondurable-goods stores..... do.....

Business inventories, end of month (adjusted), total..... mil. of dol.....

Manufacturing, total..... do.....

Durable-goods industries..... do.....

Nondurable-goods industries..... do.....

Wholesale trade, total..... do.....

Durable-goods establishments..... do.....

Nondurable-goods establishments..... do.....

Retail trade, total..... do.....

Durable-goods stores..... do.....

Nondurable-goods stores..... do.....

MANUFACTURERS' SALES, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS†

Sales:

Value (unadjusted), total..... mil. of dol.....

Durable-goods industries..... do.....

Nondurable-goods industries..... do.....

Value (adjusted), total..... do.....

Durable-goods industries, total..... do.....

Primary metals..... do.....

Fabricated metal products..... do.....

Electrical machinery and equipment..... do.....

Machinery, except electrical..... do.....

Motor vehicles and equipment..... do.....

Transportation equipment, n. e. s..... do.....

Furniture and fixtures..... do.....

Lumber products, except furniture..... do.....

Stone, clay, and glass products..... do.....

Professional and scientific instruments..... do.....

Other industries, including ordnance..... do.....

Nondurable-goods industries, total..... do.....

Food and kindred products..... do.....

Beverages..... do.....

Tobacco manufactures..... do.....

Textile-mill products..... do.....

Apparel and related products..... do.....

Leather and leather products..... do.....

Paper and allied products..... do.....

Printing and publishing..... do.....

Chemicals and allied products..... do.....

Petroleum and coal products..... do.....

Rubber products..... do.....

Inventories, end of month:

Book value (unadjusted), total..... do.....

Durable-goods industries..... do.....

Nondurable-goods industries..... do.....

By stages of fabrication:

Purchased materials..... do.....

Goods in process..... do.....

Finished goods..... do.....

Book value (adjusted), total..... do.....

Durable-goods industries, total..... do.....

Primary metals..... do.....

Fabricated metal products..... do.....

Electrical machinery and equipment..... do.....

Machinery, except electrical..... do.....

Motor vehicles and equipment..... do.....

Transportation equipment, n. e. s..... do.....

Furniture and fixtures..... do.....

Lumber products, except furniture..... do.....

Stone, clay, and glass products..... do.....

Professional and scientific instruments..... do.....

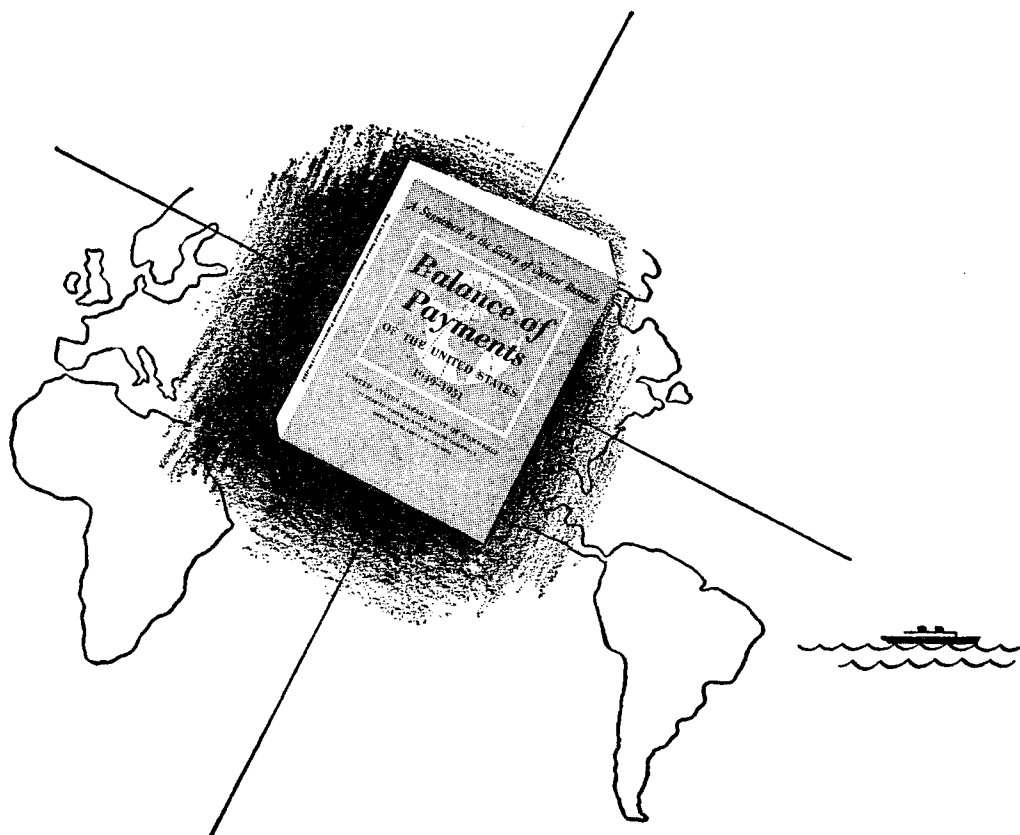
Other industries, including ordnance..... do.....

† Revised. †† Preliminary. †† See note marked "σ" on p. S-2.

§ The term "business" here includes only manufacturing and trade. Business inventories as shown on p. S-1 cover data for all types of producers, both farm and nonfarm. Unadjusted data for manufacturing are shown on this page; those for retail and wholesale trade, on pp. S-8, S-9, and S-10.

† Revised series. All components of business sales, inventories, and orders have been revised since publication of the 1951 STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT. The latest revision (affecting data back to 1949) and appropriate explanations of changes for all series except retail sales appear in the October 1952 SURVEY (see pp. 12 ff.), in the November 1952 issue (see pp. 18 ff.), and in the March 1953 issue (see p. 20); the new estimates of retail sales (which begin with data for 1951), together with the revised old series for 1951, were first shown in the September 1952 SURVEY, pp. 17 ff. Data through 1948 for manufacturers' sales and inventories and wholesale sales and inventories, comparable with current figures, appear in the October 1951 SURVEY (see pp. 17-19 and 23, 24).

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